



DTWEEKEND

Keep Austin batty
this weekend

Tennis star hopes
to go pro

SPORTS PAGE 7

Jewelry is
'wearable art'

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 12

THE DAILY TEXAN

Thursday, February 18, 2010

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High
60



Low
52

Aluminum bats pose problems



Jeffrey McWhorter | Daily Texan file photo

David Hernandez swings an aluminum bat before Texas' game against Penn State last year. Aluminum bats have been a source of controversy given the speed with which baseballs are launched off of them and the injuries they have recently caused.

Baseball coach describes equipment as 'weapon in your hand'

By Austin Ries
Daily Texan Staff

There is no way to ignore the ping of an aluminum bat. The powerful, high-pitched sound fills youth and collegiate baseball stadiums around the nation. And while it gives hitters more pop and velocity, those missile-seeking line drives that trampoline off bats at more than 120 miles per hour can put infielders, especially pitchers, at risk of injury. "[Assistant] Coach [Skip] Johnson calls them a weapon in your hand, and it's true,"

said Texas junior catcher Cameron Rupp. Around the nation, players have fallen victim to the power a batted ball can produce. 12-year-old Steven Domalewski was hit by a line drive at a Police Athletic League game in Wayne, N.J., in 2006. The ball knocked him down and stopped his heart for a few minutes before he was revived and taken to a hospital in a coma. Another case occurred in 2005, when a line drive struck the temple of 16-year-old pitcher

Bill Kalant from Oak Lawn High School outside of Chicago. Kalant was rushed to the hospital, where doctors told his parents he was on "the cliff of death." After spending two weeks in a coma, Kalant woke up and had to learn to tie his shoes and walk again. Then there was a summer night back in 2003, when a ball smashed into 18-year-old Brandon Patch's left temple during his American Legion game in Montana. He died a few hours later. All three players were hit

with balls struck off of an aluminum bat, fueling the crusade against metal bats in amateur baseball. Proponents of the movement suggest that the maximum velocity of a baseball struck by a wooden bat is less than that of one struck by an aluminum bat. In 2007, the New York City Council banned aluminum bats in high school. In Illinois, Kalant's father said his son wouldn't have been as seriously injured if a wooden bat had

BATS continues on page 8

Groups disagree on managing of iconic Cactus Cafe

By Michael Moran
Daily Texan Staff

The first meeting of the UT organization Student Friends of the Cactus Cafe turned into a bitter exchange between two students, highlighting opposing viewpoints over the future of the cafe. The organization, created Friday to support the preservation of the cafe in its current state, held a meeting Wednesday evening in the Texas Union to recruit members for various positions. The Union announced in January its recommendation to close the cafe and to reassign cafe employees to other positions in

the Union. UT officials informed the Union last year that it would have to cut parts of its budget to come up with money to provide UT faculty with pay raises. Although the board's decision carries some weight, University President William Powers Jr. will make the final decision. Zachary Bidner, a government senior and a founding member of the organization, said he opposes the current recommendation to "re-purpose" the cafe and put a group of students in charge of it. "Re-purposing is just another word for closing," Bidner said during a speech at the meet-



Bobby Longoria | Daily Texan Staff

Members of the Student Friends of Cactus Cafe listen to speakers during their first meeting on Wednesday.

ing, which had an attendance of about 60 people. "Can you justify that?" asked Adam Gates, interrupting Bidner during his speech. "A student committee could be a viable answer." The cafe is currently managed by Texas Union employees. Bidner said the student or-

ganization wants to work with the nonprofit organization Save the Cactus Cafe to raise funds to keep the cafe operating in its current state while putting pressure on the Union Board to reconsider its decision. The organization will hold a rally in the

CAFE continues on page 2

Mayor addresses Austin economy, credits University

By Collin Eaton
Daily Texan Staff

Austin small businesses and the University are two key factors in keeping the city's economy afloat during the recession, said Mayor Lee Leffingwell at the State of the City Dinner on Wednesday night. Leffingwell gave the keynote speech at the Austin Area League of Women Voters' annual dinner at the University of Texas Club. The league has hosted the event since 1992, with city officials serving as speakers to showcase the achievements of Austin. Police Chief Art Aceve-

do was last year's speaker. "Today, the league works to

education, climate change, land use and election and campaign

tin Area League of Women Voters in her introductory remarks. Local humorist Mary Gordon Spence led the league's painting and portrait auction, including framed photographs of Molly Ivins, an Austin native and columnist known for her humor, and former Gov. Ann Richards. The portrait of Richards sold for \$200. When Leffingwell went to the podium, he said he wanted to focus on the most pressing issue for the nation and the city: the economy. "It's way past time to ac-

JOBS continues on page 2

"We're bigger than Boston, bigger than Denver, bigger than Seattle, Baltimore, Atlanta, and we're neck-and-neck with San Francisco."

— Lee Leffingwell, mayor

effect change in a wide variety of issues, including healthcare,

finance reform," said Frances McIntyre, president of the Aus-

Plan pushes timely exit for students

By Shabab Siddiqui
Daily Texan Staff

No one could have imagined the proverbial "Stay in School" campaigns would someday become so powerful that a UT committee would have to propose a "Make Sure You Get Out, Too" plan. A recommendation to limit the maximum number of semesters in which an undergraduate can enroll at UT was among several proposals presented to President William Powers Jr. in a report by the Second Task Force on Enrollment Strategy on Tuesday. The 20-person task force, composed of professors, alumni, vice presidents, staff and students, is responsible for providing recommendations to the president's office on how to manage enrollment at UT. The first task force was appointed by former University President Larry Faulkner in 2003. In 2008, Provost Steven Leslie appointed a second task force to review and update the previous report. The report states the average time it takes for undergraduates at UT to graduate is 8.5 semes-

ters, even though most undergraduate programs require only eight. The plan, which recommends a 10-semester maximum, would be a push toward a timely graduation and would free up classes for other students. Currently, about 76 percent of freshmen end up graduating from UT within five years, while 81 percent graduate within six, according to the Office of Information Management and Analysis. The number does not include students who transfer to a different university or drop out. According to the report, timely graduation is a "fundamental issue for enrollment management," and students who stay for extended periods "reduce the [University's] capacity to serve other students who wish to attend UT." Powers and Leslie are under no obligation to adopt the full report but will likely refer to it when making decisions for the University. Urton Anderson, an accounting professor and task force

PROPOSAL continues on page 2

Passersby conned into purchasing electronics

Scam artists becoming more prevalent near campus, UTPD says

By Bobby Longoria
Daily Texan Staff

Scam artists popping up around campus selling "high-end" stereo equipment at "low-end" prices have left student victims with holes in their wallets. There have been four attempted "white-van speaker scams" on campus since Feb. 9, one of which was successful, according to reports compiled by the University of Texas Police Department. The sellers posed as electronic-store salespersons or home theater equipment installers and persuaded unknowing customers into buying stereo equipment at prices far above their actual value. "It's buyer beware," said Austin Police Department Cpl. Scott Perry. "If someone is saying they consider [an item] to be worth a lot of money, and you are buying it, if it isn't worth a lot, then who's at fault? Don't buy into your greed. Go with your gut. If you feel it's too good to be true, then it probably is." Perry said in these cases, no

crime is actually being committed, so there is little action APD can take. On Feb. 9, a person wearing a Best Buy polo shirt approached a UT student, whose name was withheld by UTPD, outside of Almetris Duren Residence Hall. The seller told the student that he was selling overstocked merchandise at a discounted price. The student gave the person \$220 for the stereo equipment. Later that day, the student looked up the equipment online and realized he had overpaid the seller. On Feb. 11 at around 12:15 p.m., freshman Roy Fox was approached outside of University Towers by two men in a red Ford Explorer. The men told Fox they were home-stereo equipment installers and had received two free stereos through an inventory mishap. They showed Fox a brochure of the Olin Ross equipment and pointed to its suggested retail price of \$2,000. They then offered the equipment to Fox for the "low price" of \$800. Fox and the men walked to an ATM, where Fox was only able to withdraw \$480. Fox said he

SCAM continues on page 2



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Local humorist Mary Gordon Spence presents a political cartoon up for auction during the Austin Area League of Women Voters' annual dinner. The dinner, a tradition since 1992, was held at the University of Texas Club on Wednesday evening.

The Daily Texan

Volume 110, Number 152
25 cents

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TODAY'S WEATHER

High 62 Low 46

GAH!

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THE DAILY TEXAN



Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Mayor Lee Leffingwell speaks at the State of the City Dinner on Wednesday evening.

JOBBS: Leffingwell proclaims music, energy as city's future

From page 1

knowledge that we're already living in a pretty big city," Leffingwell said. "We're bigger than Boston, bigger than Denver, bigger than Seattle, Baltimore, Atlanta, and we're neck-and-neck with San Francisco."

The quality of life begins with a good job, so the economy must grow as the population grows, he said. The industries of Austin's future are renewable energy, creative media like Austin's large music events and medical technology.

Although Austin lost 26,000 jobs and sales tax revenue declined steeply last year, Leffingwell said Austin performed well compared to the rest of the country. He said he attributes the city's success to the vitality of its small businesses. Ninety percent of Austin's businesses have about 10 employees.

He said that UT is also a staple of the city's economy and that Austin is no longer a sleepy college town.

"Without a doubt, [UT] is one of our city's greatest assets, economic and otherwise," Leffingwell said. "It's a university our football team can be proud of."

After Leffingwell's speech, members of the league questioned the mayor on education

and other issues.

The National League of Women Voters was established in 1920 after the 19th Amendment was ratified. The Austin and Texas Leagues of Women Voters are one year older than the national league, hosting their first meeting in San Antonio in 1919 after Texas was the ninth state to ratify the amendment.

"Those Texas women back in those days were very active," said league member Carol Olewin. "It's a big statement about Texas women when you go down Congress Avenue and you see the statue of the lady with her cannon."

CAFE: Student committee may take over

From page 1

West Mall on Feb. 26, the date of the Union Board's next meeting.

"I think our most important thing is getting enough students so we can overturn the Union Board announcement that wanted to close the Cactus," Bidner said. "That's kind of our urgent first goal."

Student Government President Liam O'Rourke said he supports the creation of a student group to run the cafe. O'Rourke will meet with Bidner and members of the student organization Thursday to discuss the future of the cafe.

"For the student mem-

bers on the Union Board, it's more about the space itself," O'Rourke said. "Students want to perform there. Students want to be a part of the programming of the Cactus Cafe."

Andrew Nash, Student Events Center president, an elected position, plans to recommend to the board that a registered student organization be put in charge of the cafe. That organization would book student acts on weekdays and turn the cafe over to outside performers on weekends, Nash said.

"We're proposing a student group that will work to ensure that the space is being used for

students," he said.

Although Nash and O'Rourke already have ideas of what should happen to the cafe, they want to assure students that they are open to other solutions.

"The Cactus Cafe is not closing," O'Rourke said. "But it is going to change, and that's happening unless the Union management reconsiders its decision."

"I think our most important thing is getting enough students so we can overturn the Union Board announcement that wanted to close the Cactus."

— Zachary Bidner

founding member of
Student Friends of the
Cactus Cafe

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NEWS BRIEFLY

Austin-Bergstrom tops council's list as Best Airport in America

A passenger survey released Tuesday by the Airports Council International lists the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport as the Best Airport in America for 2009 and the second best airport for its capacity of 5 to 15 million annual passengers.

The Airport Service Quality passenger survey, performed quarterly, aims to compile passengers' perceptions of more than 30 aspects of service quality in an airport. According to the council's Web site, it identifies 10 factors important to customer service: ambience, terminal cleanliness, waiting area comfort, availability and cleanliness of washrooms, courtesy and helpfulness of the airport staff, business lounges, ease of making connections, passport/ID inspection experience and quality of shopping facilities.

Jason Zielinski, spokesman for the Austin Aviation Department, said these factors are already the airport's key goals.

"We strive to keep a nice clean terminal and to provide the utmost courtesy in customer service," Zielinski said. "We also take great pride in keeping ambience by providing local art, music and restaurants. When [passengers] step off the plane, they get the actual feel of Austin."

At the center of the main terminal is a stage that often features local artists playing live music. Throughout the airport, passengers can look at art and exhibits that represent the city. The airport also houses a life-size bronze statue of Barbara Jordan, a Texas native and the first African-American state senator, as well as a terminal named in her honor.

Austin-Bergstrom moved up in rank from 2008, when the ACI survey placed it as third in both categories.

— Gabrielle Cloudy

PROPOSAL: Students may feel pressure to make decision

From page 1

member, said students who cross the 10-semester threshold would still be allowed to enroll in summer school but would not be allowed to take courses during a regular long semester at UT. The report excludes part-time students, programs that take longer than four years to complete and students with special circumstances.

Anderson said the policy, if implemented, could deter students from double majoring or switching majors. According to the report, the process for changing majors after a student has accumulated 90 hours or more will require special approval. Also, freshmen who choose to transfer to a different college after their first semester will have to demonstrate both that they can handle the academic work in the new college and that they can finish their degree in 10 semesters.

Anderson said students would need to recognize earlier if a major does not suit them and that most students should not have a problem with switching early in their college years.

"You should take the hint that if you're not succeeding, you

may not be cut out for it," Anderson said. "And for most majors, you can still adjust. This is five full years of semester work. I think the impacts [of the recommendation] are relatively small."

According to Information Management and Analysis, about 160 out of the 7,033 freshmen who entered UT in the fall of 2003 are still continuing as sixth-year seniors.

Government senior Cord Hodgson said he can see how the policy could force some students to feel boxed into a major that does not fit them.

"I can see it being tough for those who don't know what they want to do," Hodgson said. "But when it comes to a certain point, you have to make a decision."

Lauren Ratliff, government senior and president of the Senate of College Councils, said the group will decide in the next few weeks whether they will endorse the task force's report.

Anderson said a semester cap sets expectations for students.

"It's not clear that it's in the students' best interest to stay in there longer," Anderson said. "I think people need to focus on getting their degree and getting out."

SCAM: Education, dialogue can prevent dishonest sales

From page 1

became suspicious when the men were still eager to take whatever money he could offer and ended the deal. Fox later checked the price of the equipment online from his iPhone and found out the stereo was being sold at \$100.

"[They were] too excited about it," Fox said. "Guard your money, and don't get involved into sketchy business with shady people you don't know."

On Feb. 12, UTPD officers issued criminal trespass warnings to a person selling stereo equipment from a tan-colored Honda and a second person selling equipment from a black SUV.

Later that day, two people wearing Best Buy shirts attempted to sell Kinetic stereo equipment to a student who

discovered it was a scam before completing the sale. Officers searched the area but were unable to find the sellers.

UTPD officer Darrell Halstead said although different people may be involved in each case, they are all a part of the same scheme. According to UT System rules, people are not allowed to solicit products on campus without a proper permit. All students should be wary of cheap deals involving supposedly "high-end" products, Halstead said.

"It takes everybody here at UT pitching in to keep each other safe," he said. "Getting people engaged in dialogue and letting each other know what's going on is part of that education process. I don't see these individuals coming back. Do I see this particular scam coming back to UT? The answer is yes."

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The Daily Texan (USPS 146-440), a student newspaper at The University of Texas at Austin, is published by Texas Student Media, 2500 Whits Ave., Austin, TX 78705. The Daily Texan is published daily except Saturday, Sunday, federal holidays and exam periods, plus the last Saturday in July. Periodical Postage Paid at Austin, TX 78710.
News contributions will be accepted by telephone (471-4591) or at the editorial office (Texas Student Media Building 2.122). For local and national display advertising, call 471-1865. For classified display and national classified display advertising, call 471-1865. For classified word advertising, call 471-5244.
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The Daily Texan Mail Subscription Rates	
One Semester (Fall or Spring)	\$60.00
Two Semesters (Fall and Spring)	120.00
Summer Session	40.00
One Year (Fall, Spring and Summer)	160.00
To charge by VISA or MasterCard, call 471-5083. Send orders and address changes to Texas Student Media, P.O. Box D, Austin, TX 78713-8904, or to TSM Building C3.200, or call 471-5083.	
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Texan Ad Deadlines	Monday.....Wednesday, 12 p.m.	Thursday.....Monday, 12 p.m.
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Shawn Rocco | Associated Press

Greg Taylor celebrates following the N.C. Innocence Commission's decision exonerating him of murder.

Man cleared of murder conviction

By Martha Waggoner

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — A North Carolina man who insisted he was innocent of murder through more than 16 years in prison was declared a free man Wednesday after a groundbreaking exoneration pressed by the nation's only statewide innocence panel.

Greg Taylor's shackles were removed and he was swept into the arms of his relatives, including a daughter and the son-in-law he met for the first time. Taylor said he was thrilled that he was no longer considered guilty of murdering a prostitute in 1991.

"To think all these years what

this day would be like; 6,149 days and finally the truth has prevailed," said Taylor, 47, after three judges agreed he didn't kill Jacquetta Thomas.

The three judges, appointed by the state's chief justice, heard arguments and testimony at the recommendation of the North Carolina Innocence Commission, the only state-run agency in the country dedicated to proving a convicted person's innocence.

The judges ruled not only that Taylor was not guilty of the beating death of Thomas, but that he proved his innocence after a case that questioned the policies of state investigators and experts whose

work put Taylor behind bars.

Unlike a trial, where the prosecution must prove a defendant's guilt, the defense had to prove Taylor's innocence. The attorneys did that by taking apart almost every aspect of the prosecution's case.

Wake County District Attorney Colon Willoughby, whose office led the charge to keep Taylor behind bars, immediately walked over to Taylor after the verdict.

"I told him I'm very sorry he was convicted," Willoughby said later.

Aside from the scientific evidence and the eyewitness testimony, the strongest point in

Taylor's favor was his steadfast refusal to confess. Police and prosecutors — including Assistant District Attorney Tom Ford, who prosecuted Taylor at trial and handled most of the questioning at the hearing — repeatedly offered a reduced sentence if he would testify against Beck. Taylor refused.

North Carolina lawmakers established the innocence commission in 2006. Of the hundreds of cases reviewed by the innocence agency, only three have made it to a hearing before the body's commissioners. Only one other has gone to a three-judge panel, and that was rejected.

US agencies fear a link to al-Qaida in terrorized Somalia

By Katharine Houreld

The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — U.S. restrictions designed to stop terrorists in Somalia from diverting aid are hurting humanitarian operations there, U.N. officials said Wednesday.

U.N. agencies have not seen any evidence from the American government that food aid is being diverted to Islamists fighting the U.N.-backed Somali government, said the top U.N. humanitarian official for Somalia, Mark Bowden.

"What we are seeing is a politicization of humanitarian issues," Bowden said.

The U.S. reduced its funding to Somalia last year after its Office of Foreign Assets Control expressed fear that the extended supply line and insurgent-heavy areas where aid agencies were operating meant aid could be diverted to a group with links to al-Qaida.

Bowden says agencies were being asked to comply with impractical requirements by the U.S. He said stateside employees of USAID were eager to resolve the impasse but said that they faced resistance from higher up in the administration.

A White House spokesman placed blame for the situation on terror groups active in Somalia.

"The actions of al-Shabaab and other violent extremists are what are denying Somalis urgently needed humanitarian aid," spokesman Tommy Vietor said.

The World Food Program pulled out of much of Somalia after local Islamist leaders demanded \$20,000 every six months to allow them to operate.

WFP will not restart its operations until the conditions are lifted and they are given assurances they will be allowed to operate safely, said spokesman Peter Smerdon.



Mohamed Sheikh Nor | Associated Press

Somali government soldiers keep guard near the scene of a suicide car bomb attack in Mogadishu, Somalia, on Monday.

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* Wednesday, March 10

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VIEWPOINT

Step right up to the SG circus

As the tower chimed midnight early Wednesday, campus braced for the arrival of the Student Government sideshow that comes stomping through town every spring. The election period has officially begun. The sleeping giant has awoken, shaken off the dust from a year of secrets, polished its boots and leapt into the spotlight once more. For the first time this year, a group of Student Government hopefuls cares what you think — and they're ready to dance for your vote under the big top. So grab some popcorn and a front-row seat for the arrival of the SG campaign circus.

First up, we have the executive alliance of Scott Parks and Muneezeh Kabir, prancing in — above the fray and above the circus, they'd like you to believe — on the sky-high tightrope. But beyond actively campaigning for the current executive alliance of Liam O'Rourke and Shara Ma, Parks has served on the executive board as external financial director, a member of the Assembly as a business school representative and as city relations agency director. Kabir is the Women's Resource Agency Director and sits on the President's Student Advisory Council.

Parks and Kabir are certainly part of the circus. Only, they are teetering precariously on a pretty thin line. Campaigning — defined as soliciting votes — before the start of the election cycle is a violation of the SG election code. Despite this, the Parks campaign held multiple rallies and campaign events (described as "campaign events" in their own materials) to which as many as 211 people were invited by e-mail throughout December and January.

The Parks campaign manager, Jimmy Talarico, says those events were not intended to solicit votes. They were meant to "reach out to students."

"The election code ... was written with the knowledge that each candidate, in order to win, will try to push right up to the legal parameters. I'm proud that our campaign has done everything we can within the rules to reach out to as many students as possible," he told the Texan.

Much of Parks' campaign is based on changing the culture of SG — a culture that has alienated students. Based on the lack of accountability Parks' campaign has taken on so far in reference to their early solicitation of votes, it seems they have more in common with the way SG is currently run than they'd like voters to believe.

All of the teetering and flailing on the tightrope of election code is a little distracting. But there is another attraction at the circus.

Minator Azemi and his vice presidential candidate, Justin Stein, have entered the ring — but not alone. They have been shepherded in by the ring-leader: last year's SG president, Keshav Rajagopalan. Rajagopalan violated the election code last year by using his official title to campaign for O'Rourke and Ma as well as Azemi and Stein in an e-mail widely circulated in the Greek community. The e-mail warned that "there is a real chance for outsiders to win."

Now, Rajagopalan is publicly endorsing Azemi and Stein again — posting their campaign poster as his Facebook profile image. His predecessor, 2007-2008 SG president Andrew Solomon has also posted the Azemi/Stein poster as his profile picture.

With Rajagopalan helping Azemi's lumbering bear of a campaign balance on its tiny tricycle, it is hard to consider Azemi anything other than the next chosen one in a long line of ineffective leaders.

Campaigning has hardly begun, and all of the campaigns have a chance to change our mind. But it seems unlikely that either of these, the two most prominent campaigns, is really different from the status quo. And given the status quo in SG, that is a serious complaint.

So enjoy the show, but don't buy the illusion. When the fireworks fade, these eager aspiring ring-leaders enthusiasm will likely fade with them.

— Jillian Sheridan for the editorial board

Aramark and the art of the slow no

By Estella Cota
Daily Texan Guest Columnist

For nearly one year, students and members of the community group Fair Food Austin have petitioned Aramark, the food-service provider of the Texas Union, to reach an agreement with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to improve wages and working conditions for Florida tomato pickers. And for nearly one year, Aramark representatives at both the local and national levels have responded with silence, misinformation and delay tactics. Students at Aramark-serviced campuses from Florida to California report similar experiences.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers is a Florida-based farmworker organization at the cutting edge of human rights advocacy and corporate accountability. Since 2005, the CIW has signed "fair food" agreements with fast-food leaders Yum Brands (Taco Bell, KFC, and Pizza Hut), McDonald's, Burger King and Subway. It reached its first supermarket agreement with Whole Foods Market in 2007. And last year, the CIW expanded into the food-service in-

dustry by formalizing partnerships with Compass Group and Bon Appetit Management Company.

These accords are being implemented at three Florida farms, including the state's third largest tomato producer. Tomato harvesters at these farms are receiving fairer wages and are ensured a voice on the job. The farms, in turn, receive a premium price for more fairly produced tomatoes and preferential supplier status from participating retail giants. The campaign represents a win-win-win scenario for workers, growers and retailers alike. It is an innovative, market-based solution to the structural problems of farmworker poverty and powerlessness.

Florida farm labor conditions span a dark spectrum from everyday exploitation to extremes of forced labor. In fact, as the CIW and law enforcement officials testified before a 2008 U.S. Senate subcommittee hearing, the Department of Justice has prosecuted seven modern-day slavery cases in Florida agriculture since 1997. These cases almost certainly represent only the tip of the iceberg and stem from the retrograde labor relations at the heart of the industry. Aramark's Texas Union outlets

claim not to source tomatoes from the sunshine state (as if labor conditions in Mexico are any better), yet the company as a whole buys a significant volume of Florida tomatoes for dining halls along the eastern seaboard and throughout the Midwest. As documented in a 2004 Ox-fam American study, these high-volume, low-cost purchasing policies directly translate into downward pressure on farmworkers' wages and working conditions. Despite its invisible yet real involvement in the lives of tomato harvesters, Aramark refuses to join the reform movement already underway.

"When we first started this campaign, back during the Taco Bell boycott, we learned a new term: the 'Slow No,'" said Gerardo Reyes of the CIW. "That's where corporations string you along with meeting after meeting, trying to maintain the illusion that they're working toward a solution when, in fact, they're busy working on a parallel path toward a different deal intended to perpetuate the very problem you're trying to solve."

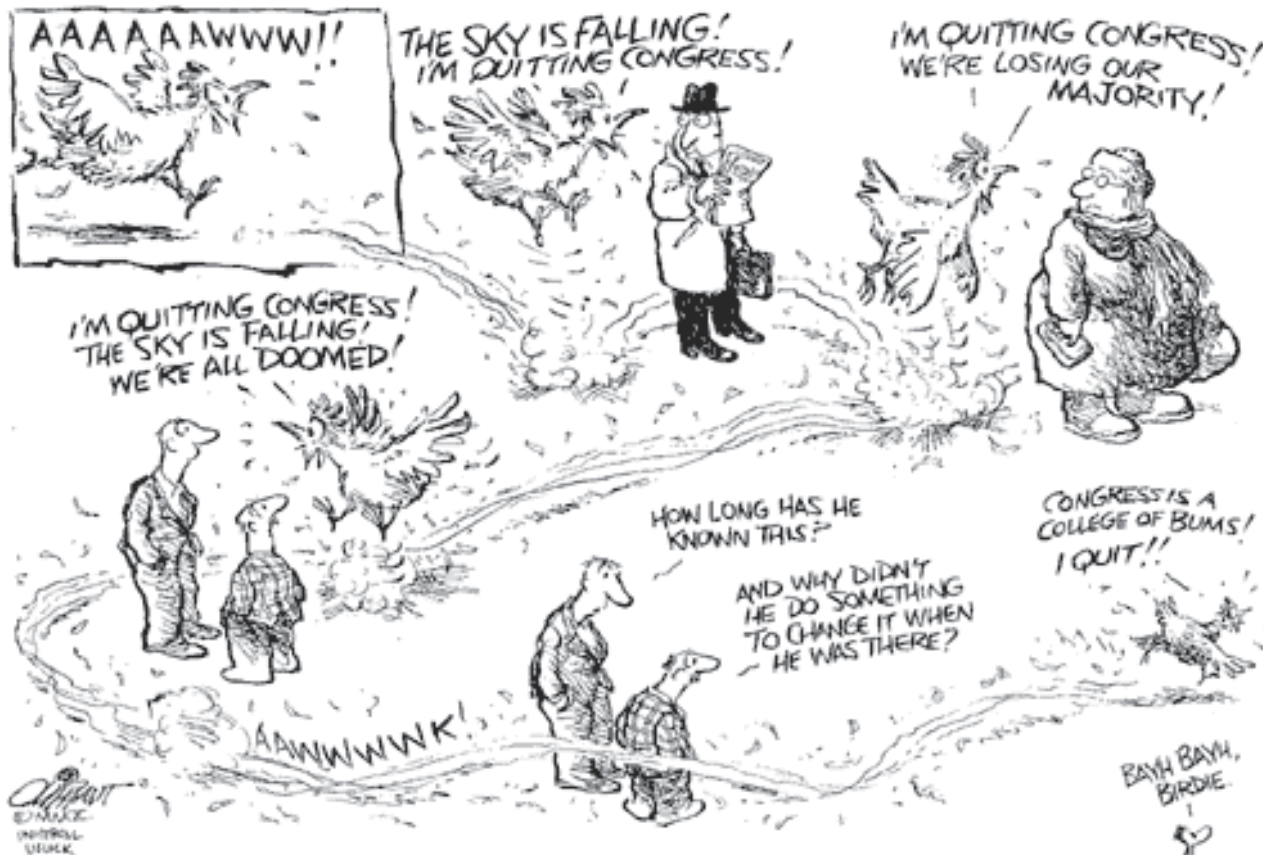
"Whether they admit it or not, we think that's exactly what Aramark is doing today," continued

Reyes. "They were talking with us, claiming they wanted to work with us, when in fact they're working with the growers on yet another 'fox guarding the henhouse' deal, despite the fact that Florida tomato growers have never been capable of policing themselves. Well, that's not acceptable, and we're quite sure it won't be acceptable to students on the campuses where Aramark does business."

Aramark could learn a lot from competitor Bon Appetit, the food-service provider at St. Edward's University in South Austin. Because Bon Appetit signed an agreement with the CIW in April 2009, it is now serving students ethically produced tomatoes whenever possible. Bon Appetit not only respected the farmworkers in its supply chain enough to forge a genuine partnership but also respected the informed opinions of its student customer base. Aramark's behavior, on the other hand, provides a bitter study in contrast. Hopefully the Texas Union board and University administrators will remember this when Aramark's contract comes up for renewal.

Cota is an engineering junior.

GALLERY



The cyclists' lobby



By Dave Player
Daily Texan Columnist

Last year, cycling advocates banded together to lobby for the "Safe Passage Bill." The bill would create a state law mandating that drivers move into the next lane or a "safe distance" over when passing a vulnerable road user, a category that includes cyclists, roadside workers and stranded motorists. Supporters were shocked when Gov. Rick Perry vetoed the legislation. Many of the cyclists who nursed the bill through the legislative process promised retribution against Perry. Over 3,000 cyclists have signed a petition stating their intention to vote against Perry in this year's Republican gubernatorial primary. The incumbent Perry faces a tough primary election with Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchinson and upstart Debra Medina; Texas is an open primary state, meaning primary voting is open to any citizen, regardless of party affiliation.

It will be interesting to see whether cyclists can lobby effectively. Cyclists have yet to show they have political clout, especially at the state-wide level. And while the March primary's results may be a more accurate indicator, it's unlikely cyclists can become a political force. For one, cyclists are overwhelmingly centered in urban communities. While they may be able to lobby effectively on a municipal level, their influence weakens at the state level once suburban and rural interests are factored in.

Secondly, cyclists' political interests outside of cycling-related issues may be closely aligned with already-established interest groups. Cycling is often trumpeted by pro-environmental groups as a socially conscious, pro-Green lifestyle choice. As such, cyclists often fall under the umbrella of the environmental agenda, which tends to lean left and vote Democrat. A hypothetical conservative candidate may view the cyclist voting bloc as a lock to vote liberally and thus not worth targeting in a campaign. An interest group is only valuable if its votes are perceived as contested.

An interesting contrast to the power struggle between bikes and cars on Austin streets is the relationship between cyclists and pedestrians here on campus. The safety dynamic between

the two is drastically different. On city streets, the car, by merit of its speed and size, is the aggressor. Traffic laws, such as the Safe Passage bill, are projects to protect the vulnerable party. As much as Austin drivers may be inconvenienced, the responsibility lies with the driver to avoid a situation that could put a cyclist's life in danger. In this case, the majority must strive to accommodate the minority.

However, on campus, those roles switch. The cyclist becomes the aggressor on campus. A speeding cyclist can cause serious injury if he or she were to collide with a pedestrian. Anyone traveling through one of the many high-traffic areas of campus knows the sight of cyclists weaving in and out of crowds of students.

Qualifications are also a concern. While UT Parking requires every bike on campus be registered, students don't always comply. Driving a car requires a safety course, auto insurance and a license — casually riding a bike requires only a trip to Wal-Mart.

Last spring, UTPD began a crackdown on cyclists who violated traffic laws. UTPD officers issued 35 tickets to cyclists in less than two hours. Some cyclists were unhappy that UTPD had suddenly chosen to enforce previously ignored traffic laws. However, there was little follow-up to that outrage; no uproar, no forming of a cyclist coalition and certainly no threats of petition or political advocacy.

Cyclists are a minority at UT, but with an estimated 8,000 bikers on campus, their presence is well-noted. While it's unlikely that Texas bikers have enough political clout to sway a major state race like the governorship, UT cyclists have a large enough constituency in a small enough sphere of influence to dictate major changes such as the addition of more bike lanes or better bike security on campus.

One of the difficulties in establishing a lasting organization on a college campus is that students are a transitory population. It is hard to get students to invest themselves into such an effort when their time on the 40 Acres will be up in a few short years. However, as cycling rises in popularity on campus, traffic issues will only increase. It's in the best interest of the University and its student body to address cycling concerns before they become a problem. Unfortunately, the mechanism to harness that student voice does not yet seem to exist.

Player is a plan II junior.

THE FIRING LINE

UT's Opportunity to Go Green-er

On March 2 and 3, students will vote on creating a "Green Fund."

A Green Fund sets aside money for specifically "green" projects. These projects can include anything from grants and scholarships for students working on environmental issues, to water efficient irrigation systems or even campus bike-share programs.

Texas State University recently used their Green Fund to pay for 30 elliptical machines for its recreation center. The machines actually feed energy back into the campus power grid. The machines take the human-generated kinetic energy and convert it into alternating currents, which is what we use through power outlets. A 30-minute workout can power a computer for 30 minutes or a light bulb for 2 1/2 hours.

While this fund will cause a tuition increase (of 0.1 percent), many of the projects it can fund will generate long-term savings to the University. In 2007, UT retrofitted lighting in its buildings, and this saved \$1.9 million a year. That's about \$40 per student saved. The Green Fund would continue programs like this to continue saving money.

If enacted, a Green Fund committee, with majority student representation, would pick projects suggested by students, faculty and staff. Any leftover money at the end of the semester would roll over to the next year. The fund would be supported by a self-imposed tuition increase of \$5 per semester for all students. This would generate \$500,000 a year. \$400,000 of this would actually be spent by the committee, and the other \$100,000 would support financial aid to keep our University affordable for students of all financial backgrounds.

Over 100 colleges and universities across 30 state, have already invested in similar programs. The University of North Texas, the University of Houston, UT-El Paso, UT-Pan American and even our good friends at Texas A&M, will all be voting on the same plan this semester.

The Green Fund will put money in students' hands to promote projects important to us. While the University has done lots of green things lately, it is up to students to make sure that this continues during a time of unsure funding from other sources. This is our opportunity to leave a lasting legacy of environmental sustainability and increased student input on how the University we love so much impacts the environment.

— Laura Fidelman
Public relations junior

GALLERY



FIRING LINES

E-mail your Firing Lines to firingline@dailytexanonline.com. Letters must be fewer than 300 words. The Texan reserves the right to edit all submissions for brevity, clarity and liability.

LEGALESE

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THIS PLACE WILL NEVER
LET YOU GO

A MARTIN SCORSESE PICTURE
LEONARDO DICAPRIO
SHUTTER ISLAND



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IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FEBRUARY 19



Above, state Rep. Mark Strama speaks about mobilizing students for early voting at a University Democrats meeting at Gearing Hall Wednesday night. Below, plan II graduate Paul Lebuda and Government freshman Caren Garcia listen as Mark Strama speaks about the current political environment.

Photos by Mary Kang | Daily Texan Staff

Leaders insist on voting early

Democrat Mark Strama stresses impact of student voters in election process

By Gabrielle Cloudy
Daily Texan Staff

After early voting for the March 2 primary elections began Tuesday, state Rep. Mark Strama said the nation will soon see effective change with more student involvement in the political process. “If young people stick around, then we’ll see the change that we voted for in 2008,” Strama said Wednesday at a University Democrats meeting.

He suggested to the more than 30 attendees ways that young people can make an impact through voting and shared his opinions on the current political environment.

“[Strama] is the fastest-rising star,” said Jimmy Talarico, UDems president emeritus and a government junior. “He’s articulate, inspiring and informative. He’s just a great speaker. Hopefully he will inspire [students] to vote and use politics to help their community.”

Mary Throop, Strama’s chief of staff, said although primary elections typically generate low voter turnout, they are just as important as general elections.

“Travis County has a lot of local judge races, and some don’t have Republican competition,” Throop said. “Hopefully he can motivate people to get out and answer phones and do some

block walking for candidates and, overall, vote in the primaries.”

Politicians are addressing issues that impact youth directly, so it is important for students to get involved, said UDems President Melessa Rodriguez.

“It’s our civic duty to vote,” Rodriguez said. “We take it for granted, but it’s a privilege. It’s a way our voices are heard, and [politicians] take notice.”

Addressing the national health care debate, Strama said it is possible to provide universal health care without increasing costs.

“You have to know when to put public policy over politics,” he said. “It’s a sad thing that the Republicans are refusing health care.”

Strama emphasized the importance of young voters in an election. He said it was the surprising number of young people turning out to vote for the first time that made the 2008 presidential election so significant.

“Before 2008, [representatives] didn’t spend time on people who have never voted,” he said. “Obama changed that. He said, ‘If I invest in them, then maybe they will invest in me.’”

Strama said UDems’ volunteer efforts helped him win the state representative seat in 2004.

Rodriguez said she believes that Strama’s words of advice will not only encourage UDems in their efforts, but will also encourage students to vote and become more involved in politics.



Low turnout during first days of polling does not surprise county officials

By Nehal Patel
Daily Texan Staff

Less than 0.5 percent of registered voters participated in early voting Tuesday for the Travis County primary election on March 2, according to a report from the county clerk.

Fewer than 2,800 of the more than 580,000 registered voters in Travis County voted on the first day of early voting. Of those votes, more than 2,600 were cast in person while more than 100 were mail-in ballots. The results of the March 2 primary will determine the party candidates who run in the November general election for offices including gover-

nor, lieutenant governor and various judicial seats.

“The trend is, it’s always a trickle [of people] the first couple of days,” Travis County clerk Dana DeBeauvoir said. “It’s like nobody knows we’re voting, then it gradually increases. Everybody comes out and votes, especially on the last two days. It’s human nature to procrastinate.”

Despite the initial small numbers, more people are moving toward voting early, the county clerk’s office said. In the 2006 gubernatorial general election, about 43 percent of registered voters voted early. In the 2008 party primary elections, about 52 percent voted early, and in the 2008 presidential general election, about 75 percent voted early.

Less than 0.5 percent of regis-

ELECTION continues on page 9

Perry challenges EPA ruling on unhealthy gasses

By Chris Thomas
Daily Texan Staff

The state of Texas filed a petition with the U.S. Court of Appeals on Tuesday, challenging the Environmental Protection Agency’s findings that greenhouse gases in the state are a threat to public health.

In the agency’s endangerment findings, published Dec. 7, EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson concluded that “the current and projected concentrations of the six key well-mixed greenhouse gases — carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride — in the atmosphere threaten the public health and welfare of current and future generations.”

Gov. Rick Perry filed the suit with the help of Attorney General Greg Abbott and Texas Agricultural Commissioner Todd Staples. Perry said the EPA is making generalizations and scaring the public.

“Today, the state of Texas is taking its challenge to the EPA,” Perry said in a press conference held Tuesday. “This misguided plan paints a big target on the backs of Texas energy producers and the nearly 200,000 Texans that they employ.”

Greenhouse gases were formally recognized as harmful to human health in the 2007 Supreme Court case Massachusetts v. EPA. In the case, the court decided the EPA had the right to control greenhouse-gas emissions.

The EPA said in a regulation proposed in September that it would require passenger cars, light-duty trucks and medium-duty passenger vehicles made between 2012 and 2016 to maintain a combined average emissions level of 250 grams of carbon dioxide per mile, which is equivalent to 35.5 miles per gallon. The proposed regulation on greenhouse gases would largely affect Texas, which currently leads the nation in carbon dioxide emissions.

Al Armendariz, EPA regional administrator for Region 6,

posted a response to the suit on the agency’s Web site. Region 6 includes Texas as well as Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and New Mexico.

“[Tuesday’s] action is not surprising,” Armendariz said. “Texas officials have repeatedly expressed opposition to the EPA’s common-sense approach to begin reducing harmful greenhouse gases. Texas, which contributes up to 35 percent of the greenhouse gases emitted by industrial sources in the United States, should be leading the way in this effort. Instead, Texas officials are attempting to slow progress with unnecessary litigation.”

EPA Region 6 spokesman Dave Bary said the EPA’s results are scientifically proven and supported with statistics.

“It is disappointing that Perry has seen fit to argue their validity,” Bary said.

L u k e Metzger, director of Environment Texas, said Perry’s main problem with the EPA’s findings is that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, an organization Perry believes has a histo-

ry of questionable findings, was used almost exclusively for the study. Metzger said he believes that this claim is unsubstantiated.

“These complaints are bogus, legally wrong and scientifically unsound,” he said. “While the EPA did rely on the IGCC to develop their findings, they also used studies by the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration], NASA and the U.S. Navy.”

Environment Texas is a statewide advocacy group that has aimed to promote clean, renewable energy in Texas since 2006.

“Gov. Perry should win an Olympic medal for taking the environment downhill,” Metzger said. “Global warming is the greatest environmental threat facing Texas and the planet, and Gov. Perry’s obstructionism puts the state at great risk.”

“Today, the state of Texas is taking its challenge to the EPA”

— Rick Perry
Governor

Owner of Highland Mall declines buyout proposal

Rejected \$10 billion offer would lift company from Chapter 11 bankruptcy

By Collin Eaton
Daily Texan Staff

The recently bankrupt owner of Austin’s Highland Mall rejected a \$10 billion buyout offer from Simon Properties Group, one of the largest real estate companies in the United States.

Simon Property Group, based in Indianapolis, Ind., received a letter of response Tuesday from General Growth Properties. General Growth Properties indicated in the letter that it would pursue the process of emerging from bankruptcy but that the company recognizes “the potential value that Simon could bring as an option for the company to emerge from Chapter 11.”

The company, which owns over 200 malls across the country, decided to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on April 16, 2009, after it could no longer afford to pay its long-standing debt or settle out of court with its creditors. According to a Feb. 16 General Growth Properties press release, the company began restructuring to pay off its debt. In its letter to Simon Property Group, the company stat-

ed that the restructuring process is still among its possible options for emerging from bankruptcy.

According to a Feb. 16 Simon statement, General Growth Property’s process has been long and drawn out. Simon Property Group Chairman and CEO David Simon said the offer is the “best possible outcome” for the failing company, as it would cover the cost of emerging from bankruptcy.

According to Travis Central Appraisal District records, the value of the Highland Mall property was set at \$43 million in 2009.

In the Harvard Business Review’s recent ranking of the top 50 CEOs globally, released in February, Simon ranked 46th.

The Harvard Business Review measures efficiency in three ways, including a mathematical deduction of the industry’s profits to see the CEO’s contribution to his company’s profits. The study also measured the amount of shareholder return during CEO tenure and translated international profits into inflation-adjusted U.S. dollars. The ranking compared 1,999 CEOs from 1,205 companies across all fields.

It would cover the cost of emerging from bankruptcy.

Agencies encourage students to volunteer time

By Karishma Hossain
Daily Texan Staff

More than 75 nonprofit and government agencies were scattered around the West Mall on Wednesday to combat low volunteer turnout by recruiting student volunteers.

The Spring 2010 Volunteer Fair, hosted by the Volunteer and Service Learning Center and the UT Student Volunteer Board, provided students with information on various volunteer opportunities in Central Texas. The Capital Area Food Bank of Texas, The Blood Center of Central Texas, Austin Public Libraries and the Texas Special Olympics were among the organizations present at the fair with tables, sign-up sheets and plenty of giveaways for interested students.

Each organization had its own specific goals and mission statements. Some were dedicated to promoting global causes like recycling and breast cancer awareness, while others worked to address more specific problems closer to home.

Eula West is the project manager for Crossroads Community, a nonprofit aimed at aiding underprivileged families. She expressed the organization’s need for volunteer tutors.

“We are in desperate need of more volunteers,” West said. “We are crying out to UT students to share their talents and their time to build a healthy flourishing community.”

Students made their way from table to table, learning about their



Shannon Kintner | Daily Texan Staff

Quynh Nguyen and Daniel Martinez Jr. talk to fellow UT students about their organization, Circle K International, at the Volunteer Fair in West Mall on Wednesday. This Sunday, CKI plans on having a “Canpetition” in order to collect canned goods to donate to Capital Area Food Bank.

options, grabbing goodies and signing up for events. Peter Frey, the project manager for the Entrepreneurs Foundation, said although many nonprofit organizations have the funding, sponsorships and motivation needed to continue their efforts, they are hindered by one crucial problem: low volunteer turnout.

“Sometimes, it is tough for organizations to rely on volunteers because there is no guarantee,” Frey said. “We are dealing with

people’s time here, and it is unrealistic to assume that everyone that signs up will actually show up.”

Glen Baumgart, director of the Volunteer and Service Learning Center, said that the problem lies elsewhere.

“I don’t think the problem is enough volunteers,” Baumgart said. “Students volunteer in huge numbers. I think the problem is in training and orientation, and communication with nonprofits.

By the time students get set up, half the semester could be gone.”

Business honors freshman Theresa Tan attended Wednesday’s fair, showing that there are still students who are willing to make a difference.

“It sounds selfish, but by helping other people, you’re helping yourself,” Tan said. “True, you’re using up valuable time and aren’t getting paid for it, but the self-satisfaction and people skills you gain afterwards are worth it.”

MEN'S TENNIS

Solid fundamentals carry Kutrovsky

By Rishi Daulat
Daily Texan Staff
When you watch senior Dimitar Kutrovsky on the tennis court, don't expect to see a flashy or orthodox game. He's quiet, standing at an unimtimidating 5 feet, 9 inches tall, and plays with two hands on both sides.

He doesn't look like someone who's just 12 wins away from becoming the winningest player in Texas men's tennis history. But he is.

With 110 careers wins, 28 this season alone, he's hot on the tail of wins leader Jack Brasington.

What he lacks in technical and physical flashiness, he more than makes up for in mental toughness.

"When I first saw him play at the Orange Bowl, Dimitar needed a lot of work on different parts of his game — volleys, his doubles game — he didn't really have a backhand slice," said Ricardo Rubio, the Texas assistant tennis coach. "However, one thing I noticed right away was he was very mentally tough. He was a big fighter, and he had a lot of confidence in himself, which really helped him."

Kutrovsky grew up playing tennis in Sofia, Bulgaria. He was one of the top-ranked junior players in the world, and coming out of high school, Kutrovsky wasn't sure if he wanted to attend college or start playing professionally.

"When I was recruiting him, he didn't respond to my e-mails for about a month," Rubio said. "Once he decided that college was the best option and looked



Rachel Taylor | Daily Texan Staff

Senior Dimitar Kutrovsky prepares to serve the ball at the Penick-Allison Tennis Center. Kutrovsky is closing in on Texas' all time wins record despite nearly skipping college all together to go pro after high school.

at the rankings, he contacted me back. I offered him a scholarship and he filled out the paperwork from there. He was a kid who was very mature for his age and from Day One, he took care of his business. Back home it was difficult for him to get good coaching, so that's why I think he wanted to play here."

Even with the minor defi-

ciencies in his game, Kutrovsky still played No. 1 singles for Texas during his freshman year. Fast forward three years, and Kutrovsky's definitely worked out the kinks; he is a two-time singles ITA All-American, a three-time All Big 12 singles and doubles player and has played at the top singles spot every year that he's been at Texas. This season, he is ranked

fifth in the ITA collegiate singles rankings and is No. 22 in the ITA doubles rankings, along with teammate Josh Zavala.

There is still a long way to go in the season, but Kutrovsky said he has a few goals he would like to accomplish before he finishes at Texas.

"My personal goal is to get better and keep improving my game," he said. "I think my

best tennis is still ahead of me. For the team, the goal is to win the Big 12 and the NCAAAs at the end of the year. Right now, we're close to achieving the two, but we still need work."

Looking back on his decision to come to college, he knows he made the right choice, both on and off the court.

TENNIS continues on page 8

MEN'S BASKETBALL
TEXAS 70, MISSOURI 82

Texas falters again, loses on the road against Missouri

By Will Anderson
Daily Texan Staff

All of the promise No. 15 Texas showed against Nebraska last weekend wilted in the face of Missouri's full-court press as the Tigers won 82-70 at home Wednesday evening.

The Longhorns (20-6, 6-5 Big 12) lost for the sixth time in nine games, while Missouri (19-7, 7-4) gained a crucial home victory on its NCAA resume and jumped Texas in the Big 12 standings.

In a losing effort, Jordan Hamilton scored a game-high of 24 points off the bench and added five rebounds. It was the freshman's best offensive game since the victory over Oklahoma State on Feb. 1.

Damion James and Avery Bradley each added 18 points for Texas, but that was the extent of the Horns' offensive production. No other player in burnt orange converted more than three field goals.

Texas coach Rick Barnes harped on assist-to-turnover ratio after the losses to Kansas and Oklahoma. Texas showed improvement in that area against Nebraska but strug-

gled versus Missouri, making just 11 assists while giving up the ball 17 times.

Missouri's aggressive press caused many of those turnovers, as the Tigers finished with 10 steals to the Longhorns' three.

Free throws, which looked solid for Texas against the Cornhuskers, came back to haunt the Longhorns on Wednesday. Texas converted just 53 percent of its shots from the line and missed 10 of 19 free throws in another close, physical Big 12 contest.

Kim English put up 20 points for Missouri, including 15 in the second half, and four other Tigers scored at least 9.

Missouri jumped out to an early 8-0 lead as the Tigers' up-tempo style caught the Horns stagnant. It took over three minutes for Texas to score its first field goal, a mid-range jumper from Bradley, but the team couldn't catch Mizzou in the opening half and entered the break down 32-31.

LOSS continues on page 8

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
KANSAS STATE 41, TEXAS 62



Peter Franklin | Daily Texan Staff

Kat Nash runs down the court after scoring a basket in her 22-point performance that helped lead Texas to a 62-41 win over Kansas State.

Longhorns continue to roll Big 12

After slow start, Horns bounce back for sixth consecutive victory

By Dan Hurwitz
Daily Texan Staff

A game of runs ended on the right step for the Longhorns, who finished on a 27-7 run to tie their season-high win streak of six victories with a 62-41 win Wednesday night.

Kansas State's 41 points, a result of only converting four

of 22, tied the fewest points allowed by the Longhorns this season.

After a first half that nearly put 4,447 fans to sleep, both teams came storming out of the gate in the second. The Longhorns shot 73 percent in the second half behind Kat Nash, who did not miss a single shot.

"I don't think that I've ever seen a team shoot 73 percent from the floor in a half against Kansas State," said Wildcats coach Deb Patterson.

Nash's 22 points paved the way for the short-handed Longhorns in Wednesday's matchup. Shooting guard Erika Arriaran tweaked her knee, which has already had two major surgeries, in Saturday's double overtime win over Kansas, and sat out Wednesday night.

"Kat probably got some of Erika's opportunities today," said head coach Gail Goestenkors. "I was glad that every-

WIN continues on page 8

Nash's huge half lifts Texas, moves her closer to scoring milestone

By Sameer Bhuchar
Daily Texan Staff

Kathleen Nash's 22 points against Kansas State bring her to within eight points of reaching the coveted benchmark of 1,000 career points.

But she couldn't care less. "I don't really focus on that," Nash said. "We just focus on winning. I mean, if the points will get us the win, then that's good enough."

It is this team-first mentality that has helped Nash become the all-around explosive player she is. Kansas State coach Deb Patterson witnessed firsthand just how damaging Nash can be.

"Kathleen [Nash] is versatile," Patterson said. "She can cause mismatches inside and out. She was aggressive. She can score from the three-point line, she can score at 15 feet, then the next possession she can post you up or slice-cut you to the rim. She made maximum impact. She played smart."

Nash shot a blistering 8-11

from the field and went 5-5 on three-pointers. Her perfect performance from beyond the arc marks the best three-point shooting percentage by an individual in a game for Texas. Her 22 points were a game high in Big 12 play this season.

Before tip off, Texas coach Gail Goestenkors had a feeling Nash was poised for a big performance.

"Just before the game, I had come out a little early and Kat was already out shooting, and she was standing in the same

KAT continues on page 8

SIDELINE

Winter Olympic Medal Count

	G.	S.	B.
USA	5	3	6
Germany	3	4	3
France	2	1	4
Canada	2	3	1
South Korea	3	2	0
Norway	1	2	2
Austria	1	2	2
Switzerland	3	0	1
China	2	1	1
Italy	0	1	3
Russia	1	1	1
Sweden	2	0	0
Slovakia	1	1	0
Czech Republic	1	0	1
Poland	0	2	0
Japan	0	1	1
Netherlands	1	0	0
Latvia	0	1	0
Finland	0	1	0
Estonia	0	1	0
Australia	0	1	0
Slovenia	0	0	1
Croatia	0	0	1

NCAA Men's Top 25

No. 4 Purdue 60
No. 12 Ohio State 57

No. 6 Duke 81
Miami 74

Nebraska 87
No. 7 Kansas State 91

No. 8 West Virginia 88
Providence 74

Illinois-Chicago 55
No. 13 Butler 73

No. 14 BYU 92
Colorado State 70

Wyoming 61
No. 15 New Mexico 83

No. 17 Texas 77
Missouri 82

Georgia 60
No. 18 Tennessee 69

No. 20 Temple 73
St. Bonaventure 55

NCAA Women's Top 25

No. 12 Iowa State 50
No. 3 Nebraska 60

No. 6 Xavier 80
Dayton 79

South Florida 50
No. 12 Georgetown 54

Kansas State 41
No. 14 Texas 62

No. 15 Texas A&M 69
No. 17 Oklahoma State 52

NBA

San Antonio 90
Indiana 87

Detroit 91
Orlando 116

Minnesota 99
Washington 108

Memphis 109
Toronto 102 F/OT

Miami 87
New Jersey 84

Chicago 115
New York 109

Utah 98
New Orleans 90

Houston 127
Milwaukee 99

Phoenix 97
Dallas 107

Sacramento 98
Golden State 130

Atlanta 110
LA Clippers 92



L.G. Patterson | Associated Press

Alexi Wangmene goes up for a rebound in Texas' 82-70 loss to Missouri on Wednesday night. The loss is Texas' sixth in the past nine games.

WIN: Reed, Gayle dominate inside play

From page 7

one found her.”

Texas was much more efficient from the field, making six of its eight three-point attempts, as well as getting 24 points in the paint. Those points underneath were contributed by the



Peter Franklin | Daily Texan Staff

The women’s basketball team celebrates with fans at the Erwin Center after Texas’ sixth straight win Wednesday night.

presence of Cokie Reed on the offensive end.

Reed’s game did not start coming along until the second half, though, when she scored nine of her 13 points.

“She’s much more confident and her teammates are really looking for her as well,” Goestenkers said.

tenkors said. “She knows we need her and we need her scoring, and she believes that she can score on anybody.”

Defensively, Reed and fellow post Ashley Gayle were forced to defend the Wildcats’ guards after switching onball screens. This led to the Longhorns adjusting to Kansas State’s offensive style, after having to focus on protecting the paint over the last couple games.

“This was about protecting the three, and we were willing to give up some drives to the basket and some mismatches inside the paint,” Goestenkers said. “But, we wanted to really do a great job protecting against the three-point shot.”

The mismatches Texas gave up included a couple of 5-foot-7 point guards who got an extended amount of playing time due to Brittainey Raven facing a small punishment.

For the second time this season Raven, the Longhorns’ leading scorer, was punished – this time for throwing an elbow during Saturday’s win in Lawrence. Like almost everyone else, Raven struggled in the first half, going scoreless and turning the ball over four times.

“I told her at halftime, ‘I’ve already punished you by not starting you. You don’t need to keep carrying this along with you and just let go,’” Goestenkers said.

Raven’s second half performance did not start off on the right foot as she added two more turnovers, but she eventually got going, finishing with seven points and five rebounds.

TENNIS: Decision to attend college paying off

From page 7

“Coming to college was a good decision for me,” he said. “I became very independent. College was harder than I thought it would be, but I got great coaching. I am also coming out with a corporate communications degree, and I made a ton of friends.”

However, it did take him a bit of time to adjust to living in the U.S., particularly when it came to his wardrobe.

“When he first got here, he wore a white cutoff with white Capri shorts all the time,” said senior Jon Wiegand, laughing. “His fashion sense has really matured as well, since now, he dresses a bit more like everyone else.”

Now, he’s the one helping newcomers get adjusted.

He convinced current freshman sensation Vasko Mladenov, a fel-

low Bulgarian, that coming to college was a better option than going professional right away. The two have known each other since they were 10 and have formed a strong friendship despite playing in different age divisions.

Kutrovsky opened Mladenov’s eyes to the benefit of joining the Longhorns.

“I trusted him to come here,” Mladenov said. “Dimi was also the guy that helped me a lot because he speaks my language, and I was struggling with my English the first semester, but he helped me and showed me around the school and Austin and I appreciate it.”

Kutrovsky has not just had an impact on Mladenov. Many of the other players look up to him because of what they see from him on the tennis court.

“The way he practices and how he is so focused all the time, the other players on the team see that,” Rubio said. “He put in a lot of work and just got better. Four years later, Dimi is a totally different person off the court, but on the court, he’s still the same hard worker.”

After he graduates in May, Kutrovsky plans to play the ATP Pro Tour. He wants to live in Austin and hopes that in getting an ATP card, he can stay in the United States. Regardless of how he does professionally, Kutrovsky has silently left his mark at Texas.

“There’s no doubt about it, he’s going to make it professionally,” Rubio said. “He’s a really smart, quiet kid and what’s amazing is he could be the all-time winningest player at Texas when he leaves here. He’s tough as nails.”

LOSS: UT falls for sixth time in nine games

From page 7

The second half began with the teams trading field goals and the Horns in much better position. They made six of their first seven shots from the field and closed within one point of the Tigers. J’Covan Brown gave Texas a short-lived lead when he sank a long jumper with 18:28 left.

But a 12-4 run by Missouri halfway through the period gave the Tigers just enough breathing room, and confidence, to put Texas away. The Longhorns answered with three quick layups, but minutes later, another streak gave Missouri control for good.

Texas was forced to foul as the final minutes ticked off the clock, but Missouri hit 24 of 29 free throws and was never threatened late.



L.G Patterson | Associated Press

Referee Ed Hightower helps steady freshman Jordan Hamilton after falling to the court in Texas’ loss to Missouri on Wednesday. Texas has been falling ever since reaching No. 1 in the polls back in January.

KAT: Nash unconcerned with mark

From page 7

spot and she probably made about 30 threes in a row, and I just stood there and watched,” she said. “I pulled [Ashleigh Fontenette] aside and said if she’s open, please get her the ball, because she’s on fire.”

Goestenkers was afraid that Texas was going to come into Wednesday’s game flat, and for a while, they did. But Nash was clearly the catalyst in the Longhorn offense Wednesday. Texas shot a dismal 26.1 percent in the first half before following Nash’s lead in the second. She scored eight of the Longhorns first 10 points in the second half, and the team shot 73.7 percent

in the second half. She said that she simply felt more self-assured in this game than in past ones.

“I always hope that my shots will go in, but in the past few games, I don’t think I’ve had as much confidence in my shot because I’ve missed quite a few, so it’s nice to just have a game where I feel more confident,” Nash said.

The Longhorns will travel to College Station on Saturday to take on their biggest rival, Texas A&M. If Nash’s game against Kansas State is any indication of how she will fare against the Aggies, the Longhorns will be welcoming a new member into the 1,000 point club, but Nash probably won’t even notice.

BATS: Despite death and injury, aluminum bats aren’t going away

From page 1

been used.

Leading the way are Patch’s parents, Duane and Deb, who won \$850,000 in a lawsuit in November 2009 against Hillerich & Bradsby (commonly known as Louisville Slugger) for failing to warn customers about the potential dangers of their products.

Brandon’s old team, the Mavericks, only use wooden bats and insist that other teams comply, even if it’s meant forfeiting four games to other teams that refused to use wooden bats.

“Ever since Brandon’s death, we only play games with wood bats, because it’s safer — I feel there’s no question about that —

and out of respect for Brandon and his parents,” said Matt Phillips, the Mavericks’ coach.

According to a study by Brown University researchers Joseph Crisco and R.M. Greenwald, metal bats do produce bat velocities 8 miles per hour quicker than wooden bats.

However, aluminum is not the only material at fault.

Between 1991 and 2001, 17 players were killed by batted balls. Of those 17, eight were hit by metal bats, two with wood and seven were unknown.

“It’s definitely dangerous, and as a pitcher, I’d love to see hitters use wood bats. But I don’t think metal bats are any more dangerous,” said junior UT pitcher Brandon Workman. “You just have to get out of the way.”

The NCAA placed restrictions on aluminum bats in 2001 in an attempt to make them safer. Bat barrels cannot have a circumference bigger than 5 3/8 inches, a bat’s length can’t exceed its weight by more than three and a ball’s exit speed off a bat should not exceed 97 mph.

Even with these restrictions, some still say that athletes are getting stronger, especially at the collegiate level. However, there isn’t any data to support this claim.

“Whether we are training in the weight room or out on the field, we are just developing

the complete athlete,” said Lance Sewell, the Longhorns’ strength and conditioning coach. “It’s no different now then when I got here six years ago.”

Witnesses to Patch’s accident say he never had a chance to get out of the way and that unlike other sports, many players are unaware of the dangers of the game.

“It’s not like stock car racing or football where people understand the risk,” said Jack Mackay, who developed much of the high-performance aluminum bat technology for Louisville Slugger in the 1990s. “I don’t think the average mom and dad realize that when they take their kid to a Little League game, he could wind up dead.”

However dangerous baseball may be, according to former Boston Red Sox physician and part-owner Dr. Arthur Pappas, of the four million youth who play baseball, only 2 to 3 percent sustain serious injuries while playing.

So how long do pitchers have to react?

Kettering University physicist Daniel A. Russell believes it takes just under one-tenth of a second to blink an eye. A ball leaving the bat at 97 miles per hour will arrive at the pitchers mound in four-tenths of a second, where an aluminum bat decreases the reaction time to .038 seconds.

But does a two-hundredths of a

second difference — one-fifth the time it takes to blink an eye — really improve a pitcher’s ability to react?

According to Kevin Breen, who spoke at the New York City Council meetings in 2006 and 2007, pitchers should be able to react the same to both bats if they fall into position.

“The largest determining factor is whether the pitcher puts himself in a position to field the ball after delivery,” Breen said. “This is because a pitcher who improperly positions himself can easily add well over a tenth of a second to his reaction time.”

The Patches aren’t buying it.

“We just want to get the truth out for more people to see and hopefully save someone else’s life,” Debbie Patch said. “We should go back to the way baseball is supposed to be played, the way the professionals played.”

It doesn’t appear to be happening any time soon. Aluminum bats have become a part of amateur baseball. With companies like Easton Baseball and Louisville Slugger profiting from \$300 bats and schools unwilling to spend money on wooden bats that break throughout the season, metal remains the first choice.

“We have grown up using metal all our life, so I don’t think they’ll ever change it,” Rupp said. “Major leaguers use wood.”

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ASHES TO ASHES



Michael McNamara, a mechanical engineering freshman, waits to receive his ashes at the University Catholic Center on Wednesday in observance of Ash Wednesday.

Chris Kosho | Daily Texan Staff

ELECTION: No party correlation to voting early

From page 6

tered voters participated in early voting Tuesday for the Travis County primary election on March 2, according to a report from the county clerk.

Fewer than 2,800 of the more than 580,000 registered voters in Travis County voted on the first day of early voting. Of those votes, more than 2,600 were cast in person while more than 100 were mail-in ballots. The results of the March 2 primary will determine the party candidates who run in the November general election for offices including governor, lieutenant governor and various judicial seats.

"The trend is, it's always a trickle [of people] the first couple of days," Travis County clerk Dana DeBeauvoir said. "It's like nobody knows we're voting, then it gradually increases. Everybody comes out and votes, especially on the last two days. It's human nature to procrastinate."

Despite the initial small numbers, more people are moving toward voting early, the county clerk's office said. In the 2006 gubernatorial general election, about 43 percent of registered voters voted early. In the 2008 party primary elections, about 52 percent vot-

governor is close, and there are finally candidates I can vote for."

Of the voters on Tuesday, 1,135 — or 0.19 percent of all registered voters — were Democrats, and 1,481 — or 0.25 percent — were Republicans.

"On the Republican side, we

Center on campus, one of the permanent early voting locations in Austin, according to the county clerk.

"Around the same time Tuesday, about 120 people had voted," said Harley Fisher, an election deputy of the county clerk's office. "Mostly students and professors come here to vote, and it's rare to find community members here because of parking difficulties around campus."

The early voting period for the March 2 primary lasts until Feb. 26. Registered voters can vote at any of the 20 permanent early voting locations around Austin or at any mobile location listed on <http://www.co.travis.tx.us/>. Most locations are open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.

On the day of an election, voters must vote within their specific precinct between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. The last day to send an application by mail to vote is Feb. 23, and all votes must be received by 7 p.m. on March 2.

"It's like nobody knows we're voting, then it gradually increases."

— Dana DeBeauvoir, Travis County clerk

ed early, and in the 2008 presidential general election, about 75 percent voted early.

"I normally vote early because it's more convenient," government senior Andrew Alter said. "I don't always vote in the primaries, especially on an off-year like this one. But this year, the race for

have a hot gubernatorial race, and on the Democratic side, we have many judges' races right now," DeBeauvoir said. "But there's no set trend of how many Republican and Democratic voters participate in early voting."

By 6 p.m. Wednesday, 95 people had voted at the Flawn Academic



campus watch

Bad credit

Brackenridge Apartments, 3300 Lake Austin Blvd.

Burglary of Motor Vehicle: A UT student reported an unknown subject had entered her secured vehicle and removed her wallet, credit cards, and personal identification from the glove box. During the investigation the officer learned the victim's credit cards had been used at several areas businesses. Loss value: Unknown at this time. Occurred between: 2-14-10, at 10 p.m. and 2-15-10, at 2:30 p.m.

Unauthorized hiding

Garrison Hall, #3 E. Mall

Criminal Trespass Warning: A UT staff member reported finding 4 to 5 unauthorized subjects inside a ground level classroom. The staff member reported the subjects were refusing to leave the area. Upon the arrival of the officers only two subjects were located. Both subjects were unaware the building had closed and were issued verbal Criminal Trespass Warnings and were escorted from the building. Occurred on: 2-16-10, at 1:19 a.m.

Giant theft

Jester West Dormitory, 201 E. 21st St.

Theft: A grey Giant mountain bicycle was reported stolen from

the bike racks located on the east side of the dormitory after being secured with a self-locking cable lock. Loss value: \$250.00. Occurred between: 2-12-10 and 2-15-10.

Lost in a vortex

Music Recital Hall, 2405 Trinity St.

Theft: A red and black colored Vortex bicycle was reported stolen after being secured with a self-locking cable lock. During the investigation, the officer learned the victim had not taken the time to register his property with Parking and Transportation nor had he recorded the bicycle's serial number. Loss value: \$50.00. Occurred on: 2-15-10, between 11 a.m. and 12:50 p.m.

Let it go

Painter Hall, 103 W. 24th St.

Harassment: A UT student has been sending her harassing emails, text messages, and making daily telephone calls since they ended their relationship over a year ago. During the investigation, the officer learned the suspect had also been stalking the victim by showing up at her classes and place of work. Occurred since: 12-08 to 2-14-10.

Compiled by UTPD Officer Darrell Halstead

NEWS BRIEFLY

Demand for gasoline remains low, oil price falls in Asia

SINGAPORE - Oil prices fell below \$77 a barrel Thursday in Asia on signs gasoline and distillate demand in the U.S. remain sluggish.

Benchmark crude for March delivery was down 73 cents to \$76.60 a barrel at late afternoon Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract added 32 cents to settle at \$77.33 on Wednesday.

Inventories of distillates, which include heating oil and diesel fuel, rose 1.3 million barrels last week, the American Petroleum Institute said late Wednesday. Analysts, eyeing a cold weather spell in much of the U.S. this month, had expected a drop of 1.6 million barrels, according to a survey by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos.

Gasoline inventories also grew while crude supplies fell slightly, the API said.

The Energy Department's Energy Information Administration is

scheduled to announce its supply report later Thursday.

Crude has traded between \$69 a barrel and \$84 for most of the last six months as the global economy recovers from recession, but crude demand from developed countries remains weak.

Some analysts expect demand to soon pick up, and conspire with limited supplies to boost prices.

"In retrospect, it appears that the global economic crisis has postponed, but not canceled, a crunch which otherwise would have been starting to bite pretty much now," Barclays Capital said in a report. "The trading range should start to move up, with \$80 per barrel transitioning from being an effective ceiling to instead becoming an effective floor."

In other Nymex trading in March contracts, heating oil fell 1.82 cents to \$1.9885 a gallon, and gasoline dropped 1.19 cent to \$1.9952 a gallon. Natural gas fell 0.6 cent to \$5.38 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, Brent crude was down 72 cents at \$75.54 on the ICE futures exchange.

—The Associated Press

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By DAVID OUELLET
HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.
DON'T BE LATE
S G Y S E N O P T S O P (A) C (E) W C N A T L I U G N I Y A P S A E H I L U G N I C A L P E K R R I E T E C I R P H S T G C N D R V D E D S S W E A T N A I E E I R U E H F C L E R I B N S T P V E L M N Y S U B G T G T P A A E T E C O E E S A E T I M E R R U N L I O D S P M S T I N B N Q T T I G S A O A E N A S S E A T L F E G T T D R E T S S R H L A R S G U L E I I N D S O I T S A L A R Y V L O Y U T L S N Y E N O M T E C N R I D E L E N D R E V O E S
© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com 2/18
Arrive, Behind, Busy, Charge, Client, Consequences, Costly, Cuts, Damaging, Date, Delay, Depart, Destination, Fail, Game, Guilt, Interview, Last, Late, Lose, Meeting, Miss, Money, Overdue, Pace, Paying, Penalty, Placing, Postpone, Price, Punishment, Rate, Ride, Rush, Schedule, Seat, Setbacks, Severe, Spot, Stress, Struggle, Sweat, Tardy, Time, Toll, Warning
Yesterday's Answer: Soldier

	7	3				4	8	
				8	5		6	
							3	
2				5	9	6	1	
	9		2		7		5	
	8	6	4	3				2
6								
	5		7	9				
	3	8				1	7	

Yesterday's solution

9	7	4	5	8	6	1	2	3
2	6	5	9	3	1	4	8	7
8	3	1	7	4	2	9	6	5
5	1	8	6	2	4	3	7	9
4	9	3	8	5	7	6	1	2
6	2	7	1	9	3	5	4	8
1	5	9	2	6	8	7	3	4
3	8	6	4	7	5	2	9	1
7	4	2	3	1	9	8	5	6

adventures in emergency medicine

by gabe

...time of death at...

damn

i came as soon as i felt like it

it's an emergency! run a cath on EVERYONE EVER.

SHEA'S REBELLION

<http://infinitekick.blogspot.com>

**DARREL
THE
SERIAL
KILLER
IN
"EXISTENTIAL CRISIS"**

Night Tales: Ghyse in Nightmare Town

By Sammy

So the game we'll be play is "Fish Put." Basically, we choose a fish and try to toss it as far as you can. The one who throws their fish the farthest wins!

I'll go first! Here I go!!!

Toss

Boing

500 yards!

Hohohoh!!! You should just give up now! There is no way you can win!

BONK!

RUN AWAY!!!

The New York Times

Crossword

Across

40 Writer Chinua Achebe, by birth

68 "___ Hope," long-running ABC soap

69 Black gold

1 Paris Hilton catchphrase

41 Suffer ignominy

34 "The Country Girl" playwright

42 "Do ___!"

14 Be for, in an argument

43 Yes-man's biography?

15 Nazione di Napoli

45 Not there, to 11-Down

16 Like a poison pen letter?

47 Gold stds.

18 "The Office" unit

48 Host of the 1970 and 1986 World Cup: Abbr.

19 Prefix with -zoic

49 Like a superlatively sneaky sleuth?

20 End of a quiz?

50 Sumac from Peru

21 "Fly Me to the Moon" and others?

51 Silk: Fr.

26 Abbr. on every original Beatles song

52 Not having gone pro?

29 South Australia's ___ Bay

61 TV movie interruption ... or feature of 16-, 21-, 31-, 43- and 49-Across?

30 Prefix with political

66 Garden structures

31 Ham operator's "Hurrah!?"

67 Time on the Enterprise

35 They come and go

68 ___ slip

39 Huskies' home

69 "We're on"

Down

1 Ukase issuer

2 Obscure

3 Recipe direction starter

4 Contract fine print

5 Host of the 1912 Olympics: Abbr.

6 Bill Haley and ___ Comets

7 They may follow last periods, for short

8 This puzzle's revealed at 61-Across

9 He played Lord Jim in "Lord Jim"

10 "Terr., 1861-89"

11 Henry's pupil

12 Put on, as a roof, maybe

13 ___

15 "Miss out?"

22 Drudge

23 U.N. figure: Abbr.

24 Tchotchke

25 Like some yogurt, informally

26 Fabergé cologne

27 It might come with the mail

28 Kelly Clarkson, once

32 Sound, say

33 Litigators' grp.

34 Ingredient in a salty dog

36 Volume 1 of a two-volume encyclopedia?

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0114

Puzzle by Caleb Madison and J.A.S.A. Crossword Class

37 Not just serious 38 Hit 1970s-'90s band with a mythological name 41 "Happy Motoring" sloganeer 43 The Three ___ 44 Pay stub abbr. 46 Stage equipment	49 One way to go 50 American university where Desmond Tutu taught theology 51 Bossa nova kin 52 [That's what it says] 53 Job in "Ocean's Eleven"	54 Little Orphan Annie and others 58 Swell 59 Thames gallery 60 Retail giant from 5-Down 62 Jamaican fellow 63 Ingested 64 Loose 65 Supporter, of sorts
--	--	--

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	C	U	M	A	T	E	A	S	E	P	E	Z
T	U	T	U	S	I	N	T	A	X	A	L	A
I	R	I	S	M	U	R	D	O	C	H	S	A
R	E	L	E	A	S	E	S	R	I	V	A	L
E	D	U	L	B	E							
B	R	R	O	A	I	S	Y	M	I	L	L	E
R	U	E	D	L	O	O	S	T	C	E	L	L
I	S	N	O	T	D	L	I	A	R	N	I	E
A	S	T	R	A	I	O	N	A	O	T	O	S
R	O	S	E	K	E	N	N	E	D	Y	O	T
M	E	M	E	V	A	S						
A	S	S	I	S	I	O	P	E	N	C	A	S
J	O	Y	F	L	O	W	E	R	G	I	R	L
A	N	N	O	I	L	E	R	S	F	L	I	T
X	E	S	R	O	A	D	I	E	I	O	T	A

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UGH, CAN'T CONCENTRATE

AVOIDING WORK BY INSTINCT JOHN THORN FINDS HIMSELF BACK IN HIS APARTMENT.

GRADUATION BY EDGAR VEGA

UGH, CAN'T CONCENTRATE

JOHNTHORNCOMICS.BLOGSPOT.COM

Rated G 4 U

By: hatie C.

Click

BLAP!

Because you can't handle reality..

Elysium

ustay@yaho.com

Well, I'm finally done with the bevo with a gallon of steroid experiment!

and I thought this cow could feed everyone for weeks... What? No, I didn't really think about the side effects... Yes, I should've. I just meant good

...I am happy. I was not about to get a promotion.

HAPPY MUSCLE DAY!!

No Such holiday exists.

SERIOUS BUSINESS 19 **by Brianne Klitgaard**

PANEL 1: I NEED TO GO RESCUE SOMEBODY WHO'S BEEN KIDNAPPED BY SOME SORT OF TWISTED SCHOOL SPIRIT SOCIETY, HERE'S WHERE YOU COME IN: YOU'RE GOING WITH ME.

PANEL 2: OH BOY, A SECRET MISSION! I MAY HAVE AN EXTRA NINJA SUIT FOR YOU, ACTUALLY...

PANEL 3: I GUESS I SHOULD FEEL BAD THAT THIS FITS ME PERFECTLY, HUH.

PANEL 4: DON'T WORRY! IT WAS GETTING A LITTLE LOOSE ON ME ANYWAY.

PANEL 5: WE WERE PASSIN' BY, AND WE HEARD YOUR FRIEND MAY'VE GOTTEN 'IMSELF IN A BIT OF A SITCH WITH THE AUTHORITIES HERE.

PANEL 6: BACK WHERE AH'M FROM, WE HAS A SAYIN': BEST WAY TO GET YOUR HEN BACK FROM A CHICKEN RUSTLER IS TO TAKE THREE FRESH CLUCKERS FROM THE RUSTLER'S OWN COOP.

PANEL 7: HE'LL BE IN A REAL BARTERIN' MOOD THEN!

PANEL 8: WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?

PANEL 9: AND WHY DON'T YOU JUST KEEP THE ONES YOU ALREADY STOLE?

INCOHERENT JARGON
BY CLAUDIA LUCENA

SO RECENTLY I READ THIS ARTICLE ABOUT HOW A FONT CAN ALTER SOMEONE'S VIEW OF A PAPER.

WELL I'M SURE I WOULDN'T DISMISS A GOOD PAPER JUST BECAUSE OF THE FONT.

SEE, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT..

WHAT'S THIS?
JUST READ IT.

ART I THE SPECIAL THEORY OF RELATIVIT
PHYSICAL MEANING OF GEOMETRICAL
PROPOSITIONS

your schooldays most of you who read this be
le acquaintance with the noble building of Eucl
ometry, and you remember — perhaps with mo
ect than love — the magnificent structure, on
ty staircase of which you were chased about i
nted hours by conscientious teachers. By reas
past experience, you would certainly regard e
with disdain who should pronounce even the m

AGH! THE COMIC SANS,
IT BURNS!

YES,
YES IT
DOES.

HEY!! do you have opinions about ...

THINGS?

tell us what you think of stuff at:
dailytexancomics@gmail.com
(love us, hate us — just tell us please)



Gabriel Bleakley enjoys a round of frisbee with his friends in front of Failure's portrait of Virgin Mary behind Starbucks on 24th and Guadalupe Street. This image can be seen in other nearby locations, such as inside of the Complete Clothing store.

Artist explores culture in graffiti

By Victoria Heckenlaible
Daily Texan Staff

Failure has a different meaning in Austin. The local graffiti artist with the ironic name capitalizes on the cult-like following of brand names. With beginnings in Houston, Failure, the now Austin-based artist does not rely on the traditional tool of graffiti artists, spray paint, but instead uses silk screens, custom-mixed colors, Xeroxes and posters.

He places these posters around Austin in high-traffic areas, especially on the Drag. The posters range from a commissioned piece outside Complete Clothing to the American Apparel look-alike ads that have been torn down.

"Mimicking what is already there just helps with the presentation more," Failure said. "People don't know if it's an ad for something or if I put it there."

He mimics American Apparel ads because of their success in creating mainstream appeal and cult following. This has set a precedent throughout his work of building off themes to add to his style and critique of the culture.

"I feel like I've accomplished that when I look like something else enough to confuse people," he said. "But there is still a slight distinction [of style]."

Failure said he feels this distinction subtly encourages an acceptance of oneself, adding how it doesn't bother him that people may accuse him of taking part in the culture he parodies because his intention is to critique.

"I embrace that," he said. "Because I am still taking part in making art, whether selling a poster or designing for a T-shirt."

A store on the Drag, Complete Clothing, now hosts two of Failure's pieces — a commissioned piece from December on the outside of the building and a version of Michelangelo's Pietà inside. The store chose the pieces because of how they strike the consumer.

"When you hire an artist like him, you do it because you like his style," said Brandy Joy Smith, the assistant to the owner.

The commissioned piece needed to incorporate the store name, while being silly and sexy. Otherwise, Failure was given free reign with the piece. He used his trademark-style bubble letters as the background for an American Apparel-style photograph of a woman covering her face with her arms, wearing only a T-shirt. He says he feels this composition is recognizable as his own.

"Everything starts out as wanting to convey a simple sensation,"

Failure said. "Once I have in mind what they want to receive from it, I bring the image to convey what I need to do."

The second piece, a version of Michelangelo's Pietà, came to the store when Zaul Zamora, the store owner, saw the piece around Austin and thought it coincided well with the store's decor.

"You make a statement any time you use religion in art," Smith said. "It either rubs you the right way or the wrong way."

The Virgin Mary print also covers two double-doors on the back of the old Intellectual Property building facing the Starbucks on 24th Street. Acrylic paint highlights the black-and-white Xerox of the Virgin Mary's head with his signature "f." in the corner.

"This [piece] is coming to accept a balance between the beliefs I grew up with and now have," Failure said. "I wanted something with a classic, sterile look, because [religious beliefs] are a very gray area."

The piece was supposed to be placed elsewhere until he had an overwhelming sense to place it over the double doors.

"I consider myself guided by some sort of instinct," he said.

Since it does cover the doors and is considered graffiti, Rachel Delanoix Salinas, the cus-

tommer service manager of the former Intellectual Property, said that she is surprised that the piece has not been painted over by the University Co-op. She thinks one reason may be because of its beauty.

"The fact that it's black and white on a white wall printed on pasted paper makes it so beautiful," she said. "It doesn't come across as something crude or malicious [like other graffiti]. It's very peaceful and forlorn. It translates very well."

The emotional translation that Delanoix Salinas notes comes from Failure's process.

"I pick the images for the feelings they convey," he said. "I use the associations that I gather from friends and put them together in one piece."

PHOTO: Girl's reaction exposes sense of fear, says Ransom curator

From page 12

said. "I [wanted to] photograph the young girls because I wanted to include the female population's story in my photos."

Walking into the camp's classroom, McCurry said Gula caught his eye right away.

"When I entered the school, I saw this girl with amazing eyes," McCurry said. "I knew she had this special, unusual, riveting look."

After the photograph came out in National Geographic, the Harry Ransom Center's curator of photography David Coleman said he remembered the instantaneous fame it garnered.

"I remember it being hugely popular," Coleman said. "I think the power and profoundness behind those eyes really caught the public's eye. Her eyes have this sense of fear and weariness, but with such ambiguous emotion. It feels like you are sitting next to her, looking right into her eyes."

McCurry's photographs often include child soldiers, wars, death and

many other devastating scenarios.

"Tragic scenes break your heart, but you have to marshal your emotions and come back and do your job again the next day," McCurry said. "Just like a surgeon, I see terrible things, but [I] have to persevere because otherwise, I can't tell [my] story."

As just one of the Magnum photographers, McCurry said he wants people who come to the exhibit to appreciate the work of all of the artists. "I want people to appreciate being alive and experience life in other parts of the world," McCurry said. "[These people] are living the same life as them, but in a culturally different way."

Looking back on his photograph of the Afghan girl, McCurry admitted that he was never quite sure what she was saying with her piercing eyes.

"I think the uncertainty is one of the great joys of working with pictures," McCurry said. "Everyone has their own interpretations, but you get to make up your own way."

UNIQUE: Pieces displayed as artwork to show effort

From page 12

An interesting aspect of the store is the way each of the designers' pieces is displayed. By ditching traditional cases and instead hanging the jewelry in frames, Sigel elevates what has often been labeled as a craft to the status of artwork.

"The amount of effort these people put in is no different than any artist," Sigel said. "Some of these jewelers have even used the word excruciating as far as the amount of time it takes them to design these pieces. They're

just total works of love for these designers."

"ART on 5th's" approach to the concept of wearable art has resonated well with local designers who sell their work in The Art of Jewelry.

"The Art of Jewelry is the only exclusive jewelry gallery in Austin that reflects Austin's funky style, and their shop adds a unique artistic flair to Austin's jewelry scene," said Shalena White, a Texas State alumnus who frequently explores themes of nature through her pieces.

UT graduate follows film dreams

By Carlo Castillo
Daily Texan Staff

Eight months ago, Ryan James Yezak left Texas with a radio-television-film degree from UT, support from friends and family, a few personal belongings in a U-Haul, which was everything he needed to become the filmmaker he wanted to be.

He moved to Los Angeles solely with the drive and optimism it takes to face rejection one day and get up and move on the next.

"In order to make it here," Yezak said, "you need to want to be here more than anyone else."

His story is many others' story — it's the story of following one's dreams.

"I've known all my life that I belonged in L.A.," Yezak said. "When I graduated, I decided to pack up and move to L.A. with a friend and look for jobs."

But following one's dreams now is harder than ever, Yezak said.

"I've never been through something like this," he said. "I'm willing to work harder than anybody, but it's so competitive, and I think it has a lot to do with the economy."

The search for jobs proved to be tough. The first job he was able to secure was working for Central Casting. He appeared as an extra in a few films, but it wasn't what he came to L.A. to do.

He found a paid internship with Roll International, a public relations firm. There, he gained the skills necessary to tackle his next project: creating and marketing his version of a music video for Britney Spears' song "3."

He posted his video to You-

Tube weeks before the pop-star released hers and immediately gained national attention. Three days after the video was posted, one could read about Yezak's "3" video on MSNnews, The Advocate and Manhunt.

Since "3," Yezak has posted a video for Lady Gaga and Beyonce's "Telephone." Again, it was released before the pop-stars', and Yezak said there's a reason for doing that.

"When you post your video before," Yezak said, "you get an initial surge of viewers, then you also get a surge of viewers when the actual video is released because that's when they start searching for the actual video and come across yours."

In addition to creating music videos for pop songs, he also released 12 episodes of "In the Loop," a collaborative reality series project.

"I've known the main character, George Morales, since I was 16," Yezak said, "and I always thought he had the personality

to have his own reality show."

He showed the pilot to executives at LOGO, a GLBT-targeted cable channel in L.A. but was shot down by executives in New York.

"They said it was 'too pop-corn,'" Yezak said. "I don't even know what that means, but we shot 11 more episodes since then, and we plan to re-pitch it."

Yezak has also started a collaborative YouTube channel titled "Gays of the Week" with two close friends and two people he met through YouTube.

Each day, one of the "gays of the week" talks about what is happening in his life.

Yezak encourages anyone to move across country, even in the face of considerable failure.

"If anybody asked me whether they should move across the country to follow a dream, I'd tell them to do it, if they could," Yezak said. "You can make it a long, drawn-out process, or you could just do it and take what comes to you."



UT Ryan James Yezak works behind the camera on a project. He moved to L.A. without a job but is currently working for Roll International.

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Inside YOUR WORLD



Bobby Longoria | Daily Texan Staff

ART on 5th Gallery director Jodi Brauner tries on jewelry created by Cody Sigel. Sigel's work, along with several other jewelry creators, is displayed in the gallery's new jewelry store, The Art of Jewelry.

Local jewelers unveil artistry

By Kate Ergenbright
Daily Texan Staff

To Joseph Sigel, owner of the ART on 5th Gallery, jewelry is not simply a decorative addition to an outfit. It's a work of art — wearable art, to be exact.

With this idea in mind, Sigel, along with gallery director Jodi Brauner, opened The Art of Jewelry, a store aimed at highlighting the artistry of hand-crafted jewelry.

Sigel said he was inspired to open the store after noticing a void in the local jewelry market.

"I think that a lot of stores that I see around — even some of the big name ones — are do-

ing these lines which are, if not mass produced, they're at least not totally unique with each piece," Sigel said.

Sigel and Brauner searched across the country for jewelers who crafted handmade, one-of-a-kind pieces in order to avoid the mass-produced feel.

"We're really interested less in the fact that it's gold or precious stones than in really interesting workmanship and the creative use of materials," Sigel said. "We were going for a uniqueness factor — handmade, unique and one of a kind, with that edgy Austin vibe."

Each piece in the store is an

original design of the jeweler and is unlikely to be replicated. Brauner noted how the jewelers "like to keep their creative juices flowing," to ensure that each customer can walk out with an original piece that is not a repeated design.

The Art of Jewelry sells the work of 20 different jewelers, a handful of whom are Austin residents. The materials used to create the jewelry vary between designers and include everything from metals to dyed coconuts and volcanic rock.

Sigel said affordability was also a concern when choosing jewelers. The price range for the majority of the pieces is

between \$50 to \$200, although some can run up to \$1,000.

Sigel and Brauner paid close attention to the purchasing trends of Austin residents when choosing which designers to showcase.

"Well, I like to say that there's this Austin vibe where everything can be a little edgier here," Sigel added. "When we chose the jewelers, we decided to choose people that were doing something really unique in and of itself, but also something we thought would fit into the edgier feel of the people here."

UNIQUE continues on page 11

Journalist recalls young subject in '80s refugee camp

By Layne Lynch
Daily Texan Staff

In the midst of the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan in the 1980s, a beautiful orphan named Sharbat Gula was forced out of her country into a Pakistan refugee camp, becoming one of the three million displaced Afghans during the war.

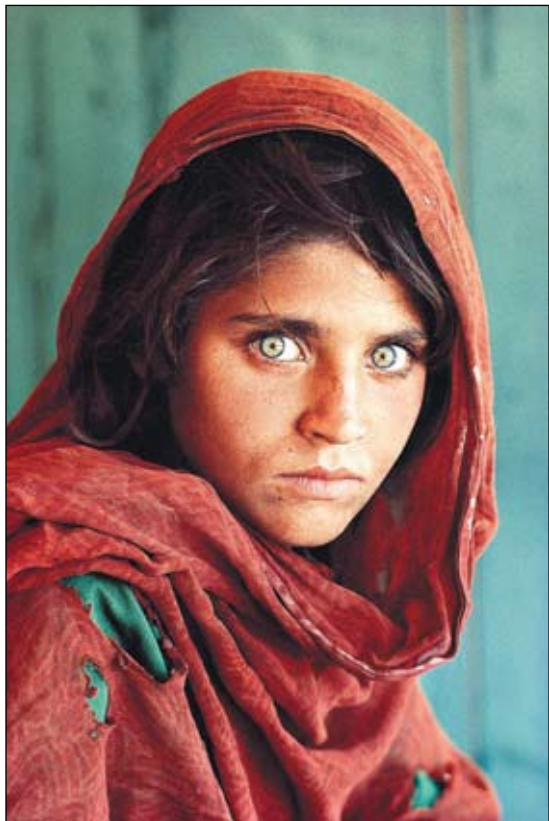
Steve McCurry, freelance photojournalist, was in the same refugee camp photographing at the school. As he photographed, McCurry snapped a portrait of Gula in tattered, torn clothes that captured the emotional intensity behind the girl's sea-green eyes.

Now, years after gracing the cover of National Geographic in June 1985, "Afghan Girl" is just one of the almost 1,000 photos of McCurry's work on exhibit at the Harry Ransom Center's Magnum photo exhibit.

McCurry said he jumped at the opportunity when he was offered the chance to photograph the refugee girls in the school.

"In that culture, it is difficult to photograph women of an older age because they are usually covered, and it almost goes against their country's code of ethics," McCurry

PHOTO continues on page 11



This photo is on display in the Magnum photo exhibit at the Harry Ransom Center.

Steve McCurry
Magnum Photos

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JEFFERSON WEST
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LONGHORN
LANDING
APARTMENT HOMES

Midtown Commons

PARK APARTMENTS

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APARTMENTS

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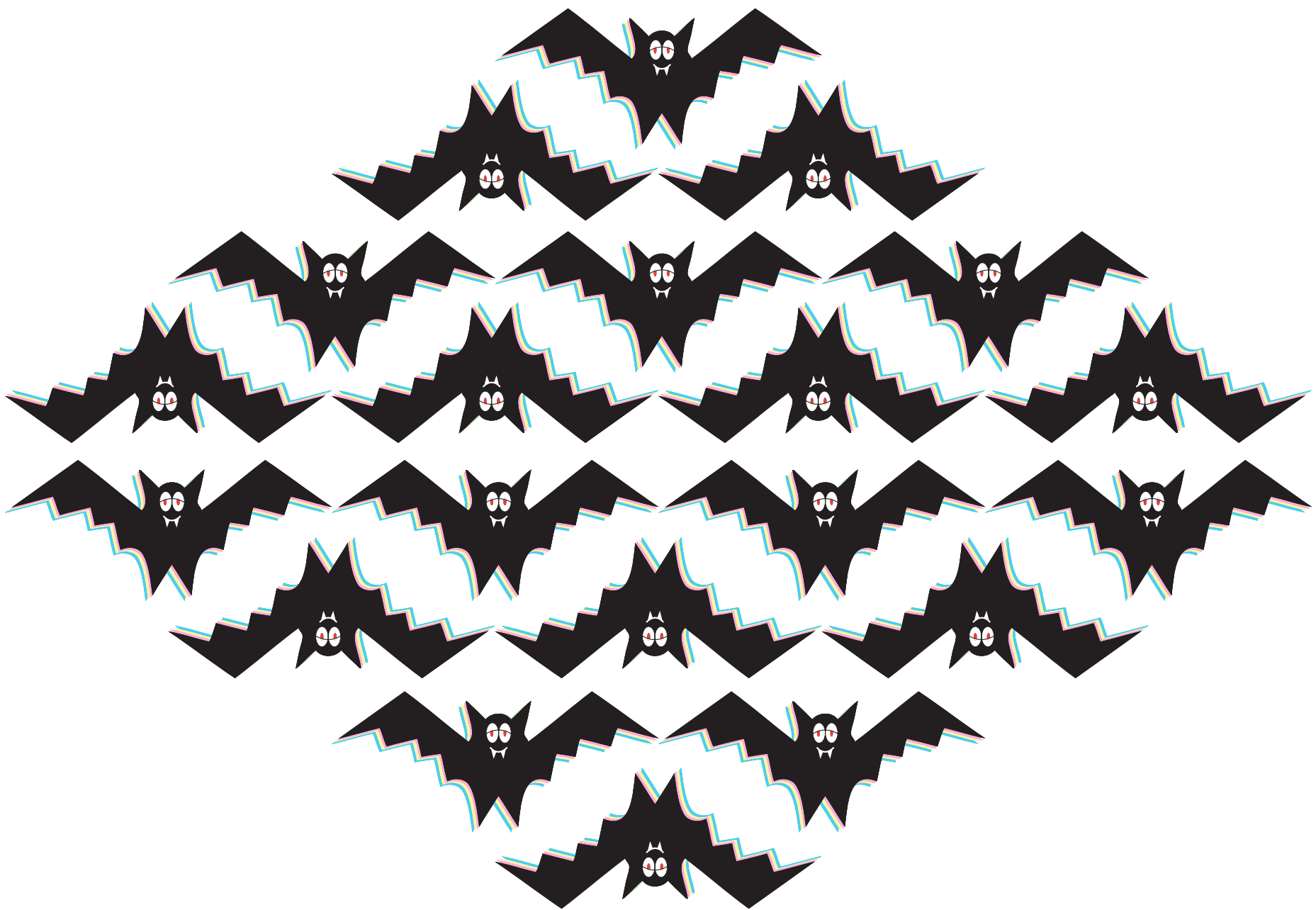
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dt Weekend

February 18, 2010



Austintatious

(Keep Austin Batty)



11

Photo by Amanda Martin



6

Courtesy of Studio Stence

food & drink

- 4 **Wine & Dine**
by BRENNAN LAWLER
- 5 **Rage Against Minimum Wage**
by HAN PARK & MARLA SEGURA

music

- 6 **Imagine all the people**
by MELANIE GASSEN
- 8 **Jazz singer woos Austin**
by CASSY DORFF
- 9 **Fastball pays tribute to its roots**
by JOE HOLLOWAY

lifestyles

- 10 **Catch some rays with these free outdoor forays**
by RACHEL MEADOR & JESSICA BILLEAUD

characters

- 11 **Cathedral of junk**
by TORI DAUGHTREY
- 12 **This competition will be a hairy one**
by MICHELE PIERINI

editor's note

I was born and raised here in this great city, and I will defend it to the death. Fellow Austinites, I know you know what I'm talking about. We're born with a fiery passion for this place, and rightfully so. We have 300 days of sunshine a year, we're well-read and have superior musical taste thanks to all our live-music venues (more per capita than anywhere else, thank you.) We are truly blessed.

In my mere 21 years stomping around Austin, I've seen it transform, even beyond recognition in some places. I may not be happy about all the yuppies moving into new high-rises downtown that obstruct my view of an otherwise flawless sky while floating on my back in Barton Springs Pool, but it's a great place, and sooner or later, I knew outsiders would catch on. But, it's really not fair for me to call dibs on an entire city, especially one that is so dope.

This issue is by no means an all-inclusive guide to the city, but everything featured is unique to Austin. There are some places I love so much that I have to share, and there are other places that I love so much that I can't share. There's a lot more to discover, and the fun is in the chase, anyway.

So, I welcome you, non-native, to take full advantage of all the things that my brilliant and resilient hometown has to offer, but please, don't litter.

Love,

Rachel

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
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This Week's Recommendations

**By Rachel Meador and
Jessica Billeaud**

The Explosives CD Release Party

Thursday, 9 p.m.

Emo's

Tickets: \$5, under 21: \$8

The Austin band is locked and loaded with heavy artillery, again. The Explosives lead-man Freddie, spent the late 70s and early 80s working the punk scenes in both Austin and San Francisco, absorbing and brainstorming. Help one of Austin's most eccentric and enduring bands celebrate the release of its new CD, *Three Ring Circus*. They're more than qualified to blow you away, so expect the best.

Shawn Colvin

Friday, 7 & 9:30 p.m.

One World Theatre

Tickets: \$55

Okay, we know it is expensive, but come on — she sings "Sunny Came Home." We can just picture our little girl selves, Walkmen in tow, crooning the lyrics, "Days go by I'm hypnotized. I'm walking on a wire..." You know the rest. Go check out this fearless singer-songwriter this weekend if you're still a die-hard fan.

Gov't Mule

Friday, 7 p.m.

Stubb's

Tickets: \$20

Warren Haynes fans unite! The epic jam session will open with Carney, a rock/blues/trans outfit from Los Angeles. But as beard-loving Haynes fan know, and believe me, you can spot these dudes crying in their beers during the build-up of a jam, it is a real treat to be entertained by the 23rd greatest guitarist of all time (as decided by Rolling Stone). Plus, the light show is sure to tickle your fancy. (Enthusiasts should know that the band is signing its latest album at Waterloo Records Friday at 5 p.m.).

Soul Rebels Brass Band

Friday, 10 p.m.

The Continental Club

Tickets: \$10

Imagine a seven-piece band that can pump music through the veins of several different genres, whether its blues or reggae. The Soul Rebels' funk is down and dirty while its R&B can be smooth as velvet. With wide smiles beaming on their faces, the Soul Rebels wield various brass instruments and embody the spirit and sound of their hometown of New Orleans.

Wild is the Wind: Second Annual Nina Simone Tribute

Saturday, 6 p.m.

The Independent at 501
Studios

Tickets: \$20 in advance,
\$30 at the door

Celebrate The High Priestess of Soul's birthday (she would have been 77) with fans and carefully selected musicians at the Independent this Saturday. Local artists paying tribute to the inspiring singer-songwriter-social activist include Blues Mafia and Kat Edmunson. The powerful songstress was stylish too, so don't forget to dress to impress.

Four Tet and Nathan Fake

Saturday, 9 p.m.

Mohawk

Tickets: \$12

Presented by internet radio station Woxy and the Austinist, this show is sure to please anyone with an electronic, borderline-trans, bent. UK sensations Four Tet and Nathan Fake will be gracing Austin with their musical stylings at an outside show at the Mohawk. And you know those Europeans know how to drop some dope electronic beats like none other.



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WINE&DINE

A column by Brennan Lawler

You don't have to look very far in Austin to find unique and exciting restaurants. There are new places popping up every week, but if you're looking for a place that's uniquely Austin, you can't go wrong with great Mexican food.

If you're looking for a quick meal and some great Austin culture, check out Maria's Taco Xpress on South Lamar Boulevard. What started as a taco trailer 14 years ago has grown into an Austin landmark. The patio outside is funky and fun — home to live music and kitschy folk art. And if you visit on a Sunday between noon and 2 p.m., gear up for Hippy Church, complete with gospel singing and dancing.

The menu is foolproof, with tacos to appeal to everyone's taste buds. The carne guisada is tender, spiced perfectly and melts in your mouth. If you're looking for a vegetarian-friendly option, try the verde taco, filled with sautéed mushrooms, eggplant, zucchini, tomato and even green beans — topped off with just a little bit of garlic and cumin. If



Photo by Shannon Kintner

Matt's El Rancho boasts a beautiful patio in the middle of South Austin — a great place for some Mexican food and margaritas. Just beware: El Rancho is closed Tuesdays.

you're looking for a new fish-taco joint for Fridays this Lent, definitely give Taco Xpress a shot. Their whitefish is marinated lightly and then served on a bed of shredded cabbage with a zesty sauce. The salsa is a little too spicy for me, but I've heard mixed reviews,

so you'll just have to try it yourself.

Join the Taco Xpress crowd for happy hour everyday between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. for 99-cent taquitos and \$3.50 margaritas. They also offer an extensive beer menu and a full bar.

If you're looking for something a little less casual, South Austin has another great offering. Matt's El Rancho has been an Austin original since 1952.

The restaurant's menu ranges from classic Mexican dishes like flautas and fajitas

what: MARIA'S TACO XPRESS
where: 2529 LAMAR BLVD.

what: MATT'S EL RANCHO
where: 2613 LAMAR BLVD.

to exciting variations like the grilled vegetable chile rellenos (\$9.75). For starters, try the Bob Armstrong (\$5.95), a meaty concoction of chile con queso and guacamole.

Matt's has a large selection of Mexican seafood stocked from the Gulf Coast. The Shrimp a la Matt Martinez (\$17.95) is a selection of spicy grilled jumbo shrimp served with bean and cheese flautas and great guacamole salad. The shrimp is fresh and juicy, and the plate is more than big enough to share.

My waiter suggested al carbon (\$10.95) as another must-have for new comers. It's another big dish featuring beef tenderloin tacos in warm flour tortillas.

And no trip to Matt's would be complete without a frozen margarita on its beautiful outdoor patio. Join them on a Thursday night, and you're in for live music and a pretty big crowd — and a taste of what makes Austin great.

Austin breweries deliver the finest



Photo by Mary Kang

Joe Chase drinks a beer on the outdoor patio of Uncle Billy's on Wednesday afternoon.

RAGE ON MINIMUM WAGE

A column by Han Park & Marla Segura

There's nothing like a good beer. It's just one of those things that just hits the spot, like a cup of coffee or that breakfast taco you just have to have before class. But beyond that, a truly good beer evokes something more. Let's step back and reflect on Marla's relationship with Beer.

So, Beer and I have had a good thing going for quite some time. Sure, there are some

nights when Beer decides to walk out on me or takes me for a ride, but Beer has been there for me through thick and thin, in good times and bad. After a night of visiting a few of Austin's local brewpubs and sampling some of this city's finest house brews, I know that I'm in it for the long-haul with Beer. I am committed to learning more about how truly perfect Beer can be and all that Beer has to offer.

Sounds like a committed relationship right? Well, it is. So if you like beer, you need to take it to the next level. Of our favorite beers, Lonestar reigns supreme — deal with it. While we claim

to be knowledgeable enough to qualify for a weekly column on drinking in Austin, our combined knowledge on beer and its production could fit into a pint glass. All we really know is which beers taste good, and we drink what we like. (Home brews though — different story, different league entirely). The freshness conveyed in each brew marks the special local quality of the draft. If brewing beer is an art (it is), then Austin houses some of the finest masters of the craft, and although we won't cover every beer we tasted (we had all of them be-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 5

Beer: A local take on pilsners, stouts

FROM PAGE 4

cause we love you that much) each pint offered something new in every sip, so we invite you to explore. Explore again and again. Seriously.

Uncle Billy's

Real quick, imagine a bar-beque joint. That's Uncle Billy's, except they put the brewery on display behind museum glass. That sounds pretentious, but it really conveys the respect put into each beer. In our opinion, the vibe is fitting for a place you would go if a relative is in from out of town, and the tab's not on you. The beer's the type that's worth the trip if you got the time and the means. Plus, they don't serve Bud Light. That's respect.

The Pale Ale: The feelings that come out of this beer are the light, citrusy tones that could easily be paired with the food. It's a solid beer, and it's no wonder why it's the most popular of the house drafts.

Hell in Keller: When asked about his 2009 Great American Beer Festival first-place winning beer, Brian Peters said, "The Hell in Keller is a Pilsner, and I'm obsessed with making Pilsners. I worked on a recipe for years, and I realized that trying to make it the simplest is the best. Basically it's very simple, and it's a classic, and it's delicious." You'll agree that the quest for the perfect Pilsner was achieved in the Hell in Keller.

The Draught House Pub and Brewery

As soon as you walk in you feel like you've been miss-

ing out. Everything — from the packed house and the quintessential pub ambiance, to the lack of TVs and overpowering music — lets you know that this place is all about the beer. The Draught House makes The Flying Saucer feel like a mall. Something about the place brings out all of the right tones.

Sidamo Milk Stout: I (Han) am lactose-intolerant and when I read the description of this beer, I couldn't help myself, despite clearly being labeled a "milk stout." Silky smooth with a heavier feel, the milk stout was easily one of our favorites of the night.

Century Stout: This beer was served to us in a 10-ounce glass, so it looked like a baby compared to the other big boy pints. This one packs a whallop at 10 percent ABV with its bold and rich flavors. Of the 13 beers we tried, this

one tops the charts.

Lovejoy's

There's nothing like a good dive bar. The furniture is busted up, the lighting is dark, the walls are all painted black, and it's so noisy you have to lean in just to talk; Lovejoy's fits the bill. Honestly, Lovejoy's is a refreshing alternative to an otherwise dirty Sixth Street. You go to Lovejoy's for a pint with your friends before drunkenly meeting someone to make out with in the dark corner of some gross club, of which you have your pick of the litter. You don't have any-

thing to prove in a place like this. Just grab a beer, sit down, and relax.

604 Stout: Really, there's just one thing to be said about the this stout: "tastes of chocolate and roastiness." That sounds good, doesn't it? It melts in your mouth.

The Chronic: Todd Henry, brewer of this fine beer, said, "As far as my beer goes, cleanliness is the most important thing in the process." The clean water and the hops used give the Chronic its clean, bitter flavor. Every taste works well together and reminds you that you're drinking a handcrafted beer.

what: UNCLE BILLY'S
where: 1530 BARTON SPRINGS RD.

what: THE DRAUGHT HOUSE
where: 4112 MEDICAL PARKWAY

what: LOVEJOY'S
where: 604 NECHES ST.

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The Eggmen, backed by McCallum High School's orchestra, performs for a packed house at the Paramount Theatre last year. The musicians hope to make their Beatles tribute an annual event.

Imagine all the people

Full orchestra backs Beatles cover band

By Melanie Gasmen

Bring on the swooning harmonies, foot-tapping rhythms and signature Lennon spectacles. After last year's nearly sold-out show, The Eggmen and McCallum Fine Arts Academy orchestra are revving up to hit the Paramount Theatre stage for round two.

The Eggmen, Austin's own Beatles tribute band, will share the stage once again with the McCallum orchestra on Sunday at 7 p.m., performing a classical twist on some of the Fab Four's famous ballads. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the McCallum Orchestra Performance Fund, which will help pay for the student orchestra's 2011 trip to perform at The Ken-

nedy Center in Washington, D.C.

According to John Burgess, who is a vocalist, pianist and guitarist for The Eggmen, last year's joint-performance raised \$18,000 to benefit the orchestra's trip to Carnegie Hall, where they were invited to perform as part of the Masterworks Series.

Burgess explained how the Paramount Theatre, at first, wasn't "too sure" about the pairing's concert last February.

"But we blew them away, they loved it, and they wanted us back," Burgess said. "We hope to make this an annual event."

Opening for the show is the self-proclaimed, "baroque pop" group, The Apple Trio.

The trio consists of McCallum Fine Arts Academy seniors Olivia Erwin and Caiti Coughlan and Burgess' daughter, junior Diana Burgess, who all play for the academy's orchestra. The Apple Trio plans to release and sell its debut, self-titled album after the concert.

"I'm used to performing at coffee shops, and the biggest venue we performed at was the Mexican restaurant, Jovitas," Coughlan said. "So, it's exciting to play at the [Paramount]."

The Eggmen's first set includes sans-orchestra songs from The Beatles' "early days," or what Burgess called "songs you'd see on the Ed Sullivan Show." The second set will feature the orchestra and spot-

light more instrument-heavy songs, like "The Long and Winding Road," "Eleanor Rigby," and "Across the Universe." The Eggmen also added three more songs to the orchestra playlist.

"[It's] so fun because I've heard all these Beatles songs my whole life, and we play how it sounds on the record," Diana Burgess said.

This will be The Eggmen and McCallum Orchestra's fourth collaboration since 2005. They have played together in the orchestra's auditorium as well as The Nutty Brown Café. Ronn Roberts, who is a vocalist and bass guitarist in The Eggmen, said the orchestra's addition to the band's music is "very powerful and [the students]

what: THE EGGMEN PRESENTS: THE BEATLES CLASSICALLY WITH FULL ORCHESTRA

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put out a good sound."

The Eggmen, who have been around since 1992, won The Austin Chronicle's "Best Cover Band" award seven times. Roberts said he has seen a few Beatle cover bands pop up around Austin, but they have easily dropped off the scene.

"We have staying power, and there's no end in sight," Roberts said.

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Malaia	\$2 Any Liqueur	\$1 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells, \$3 Bombs	\$1 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells, \$3 Bombs	\$1 Wells	\$2 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells til 11pm	\$2 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells til 11pm	\$2 Domestic Beers, \$2 Wells til 11pm
Aces Lounge	DJ Digg all night, \$1 wells & domestics	Industry Night \$2 wells & domestics	Jumping from Jets \$2 domestics	DJ School \$2 wells & domestics	18+ w/ DJ Protege \$2 wells & dms til 11p	8+ DJ Showcase w/ special guest DJs every week	18+ DJ Showcase w/ special guest DJs every week
BJ's	All Day NFL \$1 off Pints & Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	\$2 Pints, 1/2 off Wine, \$1 off Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, \$2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	3-7 & 9-11PM HH, \$1 off Pints and Cocktails, \$2 off Apps, 1/2 off mini pizzas	NA
Buffalo Billiards	\$3.50 Vodka & Lemonade	\$2 Light Drafts, 1/2 off Pool	All Night HH, 1/2 off Apps	\$2 Highlife Draft & Lstar Tboys	\$2 Wells and Select Drafts	\$3.50 Vodka/Lemonade	\$3.50 Vodka/Lemonade
Cain's	\$2 off Sun Fun Day, \$2 Top Shelf	3 - 11 \$2 Pints Dos XX and Miller Lite	\$1 Bottles Bud, Bud Lite, Miller Lite, Coors Lite	7-11 \$3 Ritas	7-11 \$6 32oz Teas	7-11 \$3.50 Bombs	7-11 \$2 off Dos XX & Miller Lite Pitchers
Melting Pot	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues; Ladies Night - 3 Course Meal \$24	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Choc Fondues; 20% off dinner with College ID	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Choc Fondue; Martini Madness - 3 tins for \$15	Bar - 1/2 Off Cheese & Chocolate Fondues/\$2 Dom, \$4 Wells, \$7 Martinis
Cuatros	\$4 Zing Zang Bloodys	ALL Mexican Beer \$2.50 after 7PM, \$3.25 Michelada	\$2 Random Beers after 7PM	\$1.50 Pints, \$6 Pitchers	\$1.50 Select Dom	\$7 Select Pitchers	\$7 Select Pitchers
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Dizzy Rooster	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Domestics All Nite	\$2 Wells & Dom till 10	\$2 Wells & Dom
Drungo's Ice House	1/2 off Apps, \$1 PBR/\$10 Bckts	\$2 XX bottles 7pm - Close	\$2 Pints 7P - Close	\$1.50 Lonestar Pints	\$2 Off ALL Pitchers	\$1.50 Lonestar Pints	1/2 Off Select Apps, \$10 Bckts
El Sol Y La Luna	NA	Closed	4-7 HH Drinks & Apps	HH 4-7, Sept 16 Mariachi Tamazula 7-9pm	4-7 HH Drinks & Apps	4-7 HH Drinks & Apps, Sept.11 Oliver Rajamani 8-10	Sept. 12 Street Salsa 10:30-1:30am
Pie Guys	Micheladas For Your Hangover!	Pint Night - Any Draft Pints \$2.50, \$1 Lonestars	\$2 Dos XX, \$2 Ritas or 2 Lg Pies and Lonestar Pitcher \$22	Reggae Night - \$2 Red Stripe, Anything Jack \$3	\$9.99 Lg Pies, Upsize to 32oz mug for \$1 Drafts	Miller High Life Buckets and any lg specialty pie for \$20	Miller High Life Buckets and any lg specialty pie for \$20
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Library	\$1.50 Doms & Wells; \$3 UV Vodkas & Feckin Irish Whiskey	\$1.50 Doms and Wells	\$1.50 Doms and Wells	\$1 Miller High Life and PBR Cans; \$1.50 Doms; \$2 Import Drafts	\$1.50 Doms and Wells, \$2 Imports	\$2 U "Call" It until 11P, \$3 LIT	\$3 LIT All Night
Logan's On 6th	NA	1/2 Off Apps 4-10P	\$1 Corona, \$2 Ritas, 99 Cent Tacos till 12A	1/2 Off Apps 4-10P	\$5 Doms Open-Close, \$2.25 Wells, \$1 Jello Shots	1/2 Off Apps 4-10P	NA
Santa Rita	\$4.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Mango. Brunch	2 for 1 Fajitas, \$5.50 Mex Marts during HH	\$2 Tecates, \$2 Tacos	\$2 Drafts & 25 Cent Wings	1/2 Off Appetizers w/student ID, \$2 Wells	\$3.75 Mango, Straw, Swirl Fro Ritas	\$4.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Mango. Brunch
Terra Burger	N/A	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos&Coffee	\$1 Grab-n-Go Breakfast Tacos & Coffee, Sept.18 1/2 Price Organic Burgers	N/A
El Arroyo	\$2.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Drivers All Day	\$1 Tecate 5-close	\$1 Ritas	1/2 Off Apps 3-7P, \$5 Select Ritas	\$1 Ritas 2-6P, \$2 Ritas 6-7P	\$1.95 Domestics, \$2.75 Ritas 2-7P	\$2.50 Bloodys, Mimosas, Drivers All Day
Pure Ultra Lounge	25 cent Wells ALL NIGHT	Closed	\$1 Wells, \$2 Beers	\$1 Any Liqueur	\$1 Any Beer ALL NIGHT	\$2 Wells, \$2 Beers till 11pm	\$2 Wells, \$2 Beers till 11pm

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Jazz singer woos Austin

Soulful songstress aims to bring back jazz

By Cassy Dorff

Something was going on. It was 35 degrees outside with icy winds, yet the line wrapped around Congress Avenue for hours as people waited to hear the music. It was one-in and one-out at the Elephant Room. The old jazz venue was at maximum capacity almost instantly after the doors opened at 8 p.m. — and she didn't even go on stage until 9:30.

Just how did the petite, blasé young lady with a cheerful yet careful personality, Kat Edmondson, become so popular? She has been in Austin since 2002, and her first gig was at an open-mic night at The Alligator Grill. Eight years have passed and she has made quite a name for herself. The adoration she receives is largely because of her sincere efforts to make what she calls “good” (what others call great) music and from not being afraid to be a jazz musician.

“Jazz is my foundation for music. It was the first music I learned and listened to on a regular basis, so when I sing jazz, it is like being home,” Edmondson said. “Essentially, I’m looking to make the best music I know how, and for the time being, this is what comes out.”

Our nation's love for jazz has waned over the last several decades with arguably less comprehensive forms of music taking the stage. Yet, Edmondson nicely infuses jazz with a variety of other music, including pop. She even tried out for “American Idol” some years ago.

“On ‘American Idol,’ they told me I wasn’t a pop singer,” Edmondson said. “Well, that’s not necessarily true, but they were right in that I’m not cut out for what they are trying to mold on the show. Randy said, ‘You just don’t look like a star, dawg.’”

How eloquent. Edmondson's success is slowly proving the self-proclaimed experts of “American Idol”

what: WILD IS THE WIND: SECOND ANNUAL NINA SIMONE TRIBUTE
where: THE INDEPENDENT AT 501 STUDIOS
when: SATURDAY, 6 P.M.
tickets: \$20 IN ADVANCE, \$30 AT THE DOOR

wrong. Her current stage-set is a traditional jazz collection of piano, bass, and drums accompanied by soloists on either a tenor sax or trumpet. The jazz soloists are a handsome complement to Edmondson's smooth lyrics and lingering vibratos. The group chatters musically the entire performance, losing the audience in their continuum of sound.

“There's chemistry between us that creates for a really exciting and seemingly magical time on the bandstand,” Edmondson said. “Sometimes, when we are on the bandstand and everybody is connecting, we begin interacting so intuitively that we find ourselves finishing each other's sentences. It's like riding a wave, and it's the ultimate thrill in a performance as a band.”

Edmondson is amplifying the jazz scene in Austin, and she notes that Austin has a unique setting for jazz musicians largely because of UT's fine collection of jazz professors. However, she suggests and as many would agree, it is clear that Austin could use a couple more jazz venues to complement the already bustling Elephant Room.

“Although a lot of restaurants and bars have jazz music, it's usually relegated as background music. That doesn't send a good message to young listeners who are unfamiliar with jazz. It leaves them equating the genre as music that you talk over and it gets written off,” Edmondson said.

Beginning with ragtime styles in the early 1900s, jazz music has become an American staple and lasted for decades as one of the most pop-



Kat Edmondson sings her smooth jazz tunes once a month at the Elephant Room. The artist hopes to boost interest in the musical genre.

Courtesy of
Kat
Edmondson

ular and influential forms of music. Its magic often stems from the natural flexibility of the jazz mold: No composition is ever played exactly the same, and musicians' improvisational skills are what drive the excitement.

“I think, in general, there is less of an appreciation for jazz all over the country. You go to Europe and Asia and even South America and people flip out for jazz — it seems

that other countries appreciate it more,” Edmondson said.

It is hard to see the influence of jazz slip increasingly away in our culture. Why has its significance died down here but still buzzing elsewhere in the world? An easy guess is that listeners have become dull and simple-minded, losing all appreciation for the great music of earlier days, but Edmondson supplies a more sophisticated

answer.

“Well, I don't think it's just the responsibility of music listeners to bring jazz back into the foreground,” she said. “It is equally the responsibility of jazz musicians, and if there are enough jazz musicians making really good music, there will be more listeners.”

Austin is certainly lucky to have Edmondson's music to catch people's attention again.

Fastball plays tribute to its roots

By Joe Holloway

Think back to 1998. To many, it was a simpler time. Much like 2010, it was the Winter Olympics, and Democrats were in the White House. Excessive amounts of hair gel were used. Though, unlike in "Jersey Shore," it was more likely used to suspend some nice frosted tips than render jet-black hair water and wind (and bullet?) proof. Cher had just envoked the auto-tune technology in "Believe" that would put T-Pain on the map almost a decade later. Puka shell necklaces were cool.

It was also the year that Austin's own Fastball released its second album, *All the Pain Money Can Buy*, which spawned chart-topping hits like "Out of My Head" and "The Way." Those wanting to take a trip back to 1998, and even hear some of newer tracks that are just as catchy, are in luck. Fastball is playing at the Continental Club Thursday at 11:45 p.m.

"We haven't played together in a while, so it'll be good," guitarist and lead singer Miles Zuniga said. "I guess it's been a couple weeks ago, we played in a church. That was our last gig in town."

Zuniga described the experience as "bizarre."

what: FASTBALL
where: CONTINENTAL CLUB
when: THURSDAY, 11:45 P.M.
tickets: \$7

rience as "bizarre."

"It felt sacrilegious to be in a church playing 'the devils music,'" he laughed. "I just think of church as a sacred place, not a place to be playing electric guitar."

The Continental Club sounds a lot more like Fastball's scene.

"That's probably my favorite place to play in Austin," Zuniga said. "I like everything about it. I like that part of town. I like South Austin, old school South Austin."

As far as the show itself, Zuniga said he tries not to hope for anything, but if he did, it would be for the unexpected.

"I like to be inspired. I like for the shows to go wherever they want to go," he said. "I try to let each performance be a brand new thing. I hope to make it the best performance I can, but part of that is not having expectations."

Don't expect to get another shot at seeing Fastball anytime soon, either. Zuniga indicated that this is probably the last show in Austin for a while.

"I think if you want to see Fastball in 2010 you should come to this gig if you live in



Local band Fastball once topped the charts in the '90s with its catchy tunes, and the band members will share those beats with their hometown tonight.

Courtesy of Fastball

Austin," he said. "Right now the band isn't doing anything per se but since we all live here, it's an opportunity to go out and play. We have a few gigs in August, but they're in far away places."

With Fastball on the back burner, Zuniga says he's staying busy with other projects.

"I've got my hand in a lot of things, so I'm kind of busy," he said. "I'm producing. I'm writing a lot of songs. I'm playing

in so many different things. I'm actually playing as much music as I ever was. I've got these set gigs week in and week out. It's a completely different experience than it is playing in this band."

In fact, Zuniga said he will probably release a solo album in the coming year, if he finds the time.

"I have a lot of songs, and I just want to get them out of the way," he said. "Some of

them are like Fastball songs. It's more just that I've never done one before. Every band's a democracy and you have to work with the other people. Sometimes it's nice to have a dictatorship."

But that's not to say there won't be more Fastball to come someday.

"We've been doing it a long time," Zuniga said. "I love playing in this band. It's a good little unit."

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Photo by Tamir Kalifa

The bats of Congress Avenue Bridge are a timeless tourist attraction.

Catch some rays with these free outdoor forays

By Rachel Meador & Jessica Billeaud

The rain has finally granted a reprieve, at least for now. We urge you to take full advantage of the outdoor playground this city is famous for, and you can do it on foot and for free.

Congress Avenue

No matter which direction

you walk down the iconic avenue, you will find something uniquely Austin. Traveling north will land you at the state Capitol, the tallest non-skyscraper capitol in the nation. On a pretty day you can feed squirrels under the old trail of trees and one some nights would-be athletes gather for a game of pick-up flag football. Walk

south on the bridge and you will hit the quirkiest row of shopping and sight-seeing the city has to offer. Even in the middle of the bridge you can catch the infamous performance of the Mexican freetail bats. They're en route right now, and beginning mid-March they will fly out like a screeching black curtain to eat mosquitoes for your viewing pleasure.

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Barton Creek Greenbelt

While we may not appreciate all this rain we've been getting, the greenbelt sure does, and, its waters are flowing. Its perfect for any level of sport or pleasure you seek. For the hiking enthusiast, the Greenbelt offers nearly 8 miles of rocky, shaded trails with waters nearby for a quick cool-off. Pack a picnic and fill an ice chest with beverages in plastic containers and test out waterholes until you find the one that suits you best. Campbell's Hole and The Flats are popular destinations for people and their dogs looking to relax.

Mayfield Park

A popular spot for weddings and photo shoots, the small park and off-shooting trails down to a lakeside dock offers diverse scenery. Next to the small parking lot a luscious green field with volunteer-maintained gardens, ponds with huge coy fish and, here's the best part, free-ranging peacocks create an ambiance unmatched elsewhere in the city. Wander down the trails, and you will eventually find yourself at the lake. It's especially beautiful at sunset. Plus, the park is next door to Laguna Gloria, an indoor-outdoor art museum. If the winding outdoor walkways and larger-than-life sculptures resonate with you, ask about art classes.

From trash to treasure

Artist slowly builds his Cathedral of Junk

By **Tori Daughtrey**

South on Congress Avenue, right on Elmo Street and a left on Lareina Drive lives a man with the words "JUNK KING" tattooed on his knuckles.

Austin resident, Vincent Hanneman has spent the last 20 years assembling a cathedral in his backyard made entirely of junk.

"Starting with a few hubcaps on the fence in 1989, over 800 bikes and thousands of specially donated items have been puzzled and wired together. An ongoing project, the cathedral continues to evolve," reads a welcome sign by the entranceway.

When Hanneman started this project, it wasn't meant to be public.

It was "just me playing in the backyard ... I call it play," says the Junk King.

But with over 10,000 visitors from all over the world each year, it's clear the cathe-

dral isn't Hanneman's private playground any longer.

The cathedral's collection grew from patrons' desires and spontaneous contributions. When visitors asked to climb to the top, Hanneman built stairways and balconies with junk donations people left lying in his yard.

"Everyday is like Christmas," Hanneman said. "I'll wake up and find something new waiting for me."

He is working on constructing a ramp to the top of the towers to allow for handicap access. With this constant expansion, his commitment increases. Besides the occasional odd job, Hanneman spends all his time working on the cathedral, depending almost completely on donations.

Hanneman doesn't advertise his masterpiece and relies on word-of-mouth to attract attention. In fact, the only vi-

what: CATHEDRAL OF JUNK
where: 4422 LAREINA DR.

sual clue to the cathedral's existence is Hanneman's unusually decorated house equipped with a streetcar on the roof. Yet Hanneman hasn't gone unnoticed, as major companies such as Bank of America, which asked him to star in a savings commercial, are always in contact. The cathedral was even featured in the "Spy Kids 3D" movie's opening scenes and on major foreign TV networks.

The Junk King is by far one of Austin's most treasured artists and will be recognized by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in September, as he creates another junk kingdom for the center.

All hail the Junk King, who continues to evolve with his project.



Photo by Amanda Martin

Vincent Hanneman, a prominent Austin character, stands with his masterpiece made entirely of junk.

“Everyday is like Christmas. I’ll wake up and find something new waiting for me.”

— VINCENT HANNEMAN
Junk King

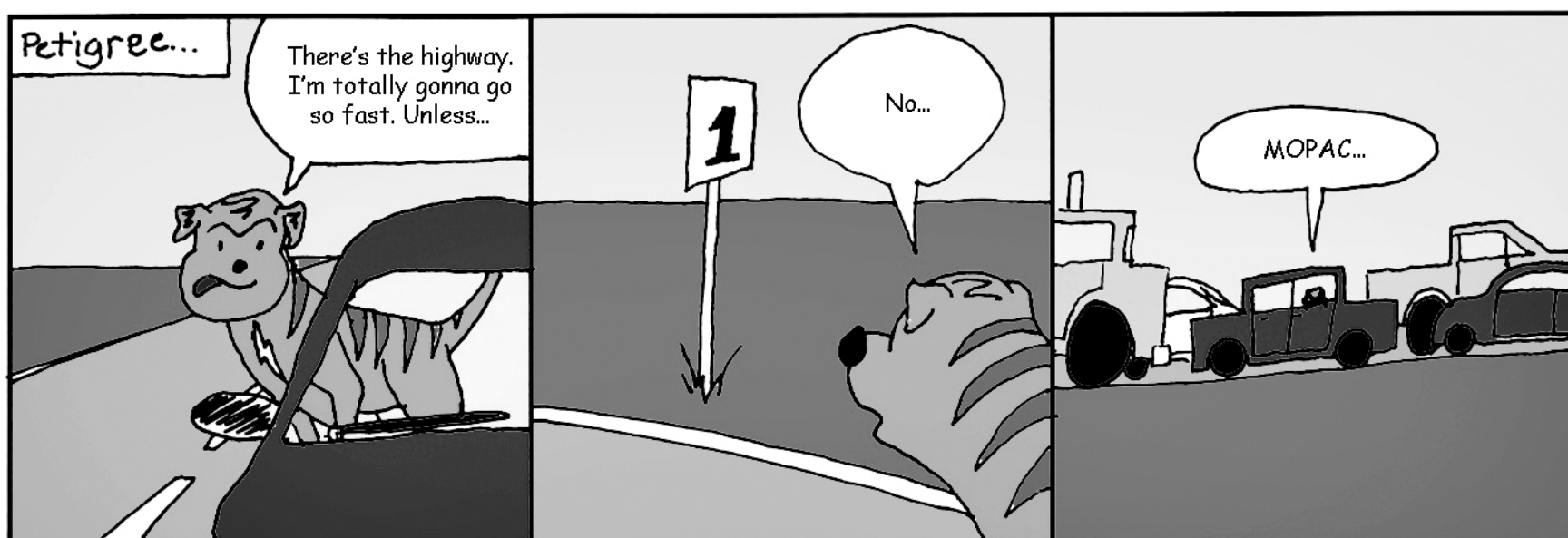


ILLUSTRATION BY Joe Holloway and Curt Darden



Photos by Scott Squires

Above, Members of the Austin Facial-Hair Club meet at Rio Rita's for drinks and hairy conversation about Saturday's long-awaited contest. **Right,** Saturday's competition isn't Bryan Nelson's first facial-hair contest. The founder of the Austin Facial-Hair Club has spent years growing out his trademark ginger beard.

This competition will be a hairy one

Enthusiasts compare facial hair

By Michele Pierini

This Friday night, keep Austin beard, by celebrating the fourth year of the Misprint Magazine Beard and Moustache contest at the Mohawk.

"Having a beard is awesome," said Anthony Moschella, co-founder of Misprint. "It's like really, really awesome."

For many men, Austin is a place where they can wear their beards with pride. The creators of Misprint each have one. They said it feels great and it has a certain something special that separates it from more mundane body hair.

Misprint Magazine was born from the idea that independent printed media is a necessary part of culture. The magazine printed it during a time of rampant Web development. Content was more disposable online than it had ever been. Misprint reacted against that method of instant transmission.

After having booked multiple music events along with issue

release parties, Moschella and Bryan Keplesky (the other half of Misprint) were over it. That scene wasn't doing it for them anymore.

"You go to so many shows in Austin, inevitably that you hit a threshold where you just can't do it anymore," said Moschella. "So we started brainstorming for different kinds of events that would bring different people together that would not focus around live music."

The duo used aspects of Austin culture for inspiration and decided that everybody loved beards. Several of their friends were bearded dudes, including Bryan Nelson, founder of the Austin Facial Hair Club.

Nelson has been a competitor in a few facial hair competitions around the country, including an international event in Alaska, and has concluded that the one in Austin is the very best.

"It's real fun, it's real laid-back, and it's real goofy," Nelson said. "That's the way it should

be: all about having fun."

He has never competed in the Misprint competition as his massive red moustache and beard combination would blow all others out of the running. The last time he shaved was August 2005. Instead, Nelson is one of four judges who check out the hair of would-be champs.

Although there are six main categories — including Gnarliest Beard, Sweetest 'Stache, Fiercest Chops, and Ladies — the event is unpretentious.

"There's a focus on alcohol and loudness," Moschella said. "I mean it's a beard-growing competition, you shouldn't take beard-growing so seriously."

"You shouldn't take anything you do that seriously," Keplesky said.

A new addition to the contest this year is the category of the Six-Month Sprint. Last August Misprint had a party at the Shangri-La to roundup entries. Men signed up who were clean-shaven and were willing

to spend the next six months growing an excellent beard. So far, some entrants have cracked under the pressure, and their beards were sacrificed, but a handful has withstood time.

One standout entry is Jeff Swanson. His dark beard is thick like a little storm cloud attached to his face. Apparently, his Scandinavian descent has given Swanson a natural edge over the competition. Although his beard makes him mad sometimes, he is all about the competition.

"I'm in it to win it," Swanson said.

Just in case his beard doesn't turn out to be up to snuff, it is fully acceptable to bribe the judges at this contest. Nelson says that all the judges get smashed from complimentary shots and beer offered by guys a little unsure of their facial-hair prowess.

Don't forget that the contest isn't just for dudes. Women are welcome in the Ladies category. About eighty participants competed last year making it the longest-judged division in the event. The three female

what: MISPRINT MAGAZINE BEARD AND MOUSTACHE COMPETITION

where: MOHAWK

when: FRIDAY, 8 P.M.

tickets: \$5

winners were all disqualified due to each of them having removed their beards before the end of the night.

Alison Narro, official photographer of the contest, will be shooting the event for the third year.

"I love Misprint, and they are like family to me and, I love dudes with facial hair, so it's a win-win situation," Narro said.

Another reason to go to the contest is a chance to appear at the Beard Team USA nationals in Bend, Oregon. Your facial hair could become famous. Or at least noticed by the greater beard community and not just praised by your hip friends.

You could even be part of the possible Texan team succession, adding a little needed comedic drama to the sobriety of beard nationals.

